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# The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy

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THE OFFICIAL FEDERAL JOURNAL of the ASSOCIATED PHARMACEUTICAL ORGANISATIONS of AUSTRALIA  
OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

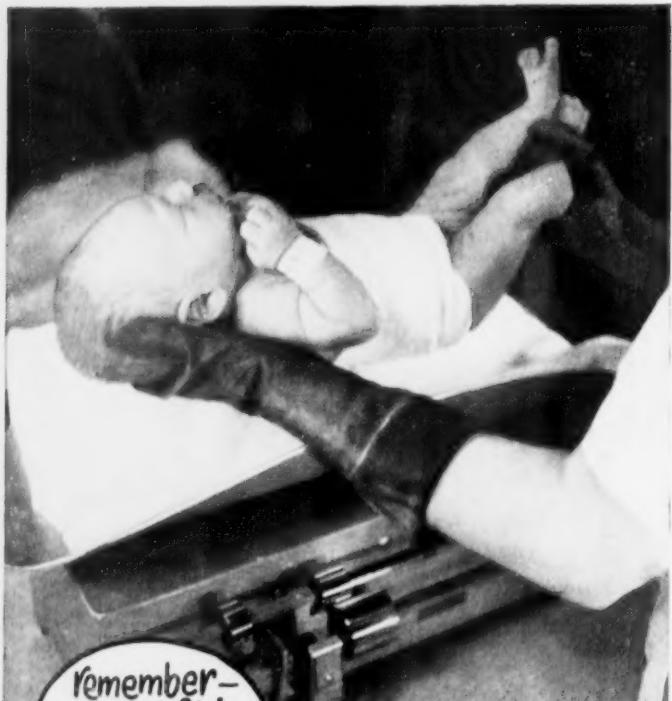
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November 30, 1956

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## OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PHARMACY BOARD OF VICTORIA

#### EXAMINATIONS

Preliminary Examination:

commences May 8.

Entries close April 24.

Final Examination:

commences February 25.

Entries close February 4.

Intermediate Examination:

commences February 13.

Entries close January 30.

By Order of the Board,

360 Swanston St.,  
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F. C. KENT,  
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### PHARMACY BOARD OF NEW SOUTH WALES

PHARMACY QUALIFYING EXAMINATION

The next Qualifying Examination will commence at the University of Sydney on Tuesday, 5th February, 1957.

#### Time Table

Pharmaceutics I—Tuesday, 5th February, Morning.  
Pharmaceutics II—Wednesday, 6th February, Morning.  
Prescription Reading and Posology—Thursday, 7th February.

Pharmaceutical Arithmetic—Friday, 8th February.

Practical work commences on Monday, 11th February. Entry forms are available from the Board only. Fee for part or whole of the examination is £3/3/- Applications close with the last post on 4th January, 1957.

Watch this column for further announcements.

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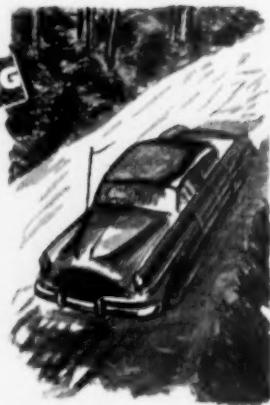
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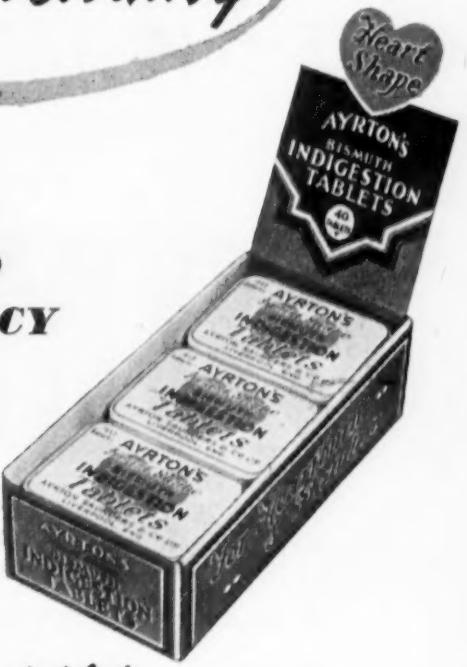
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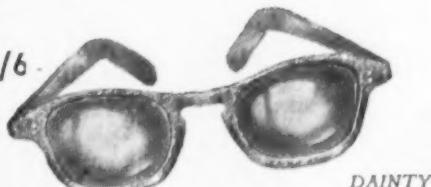
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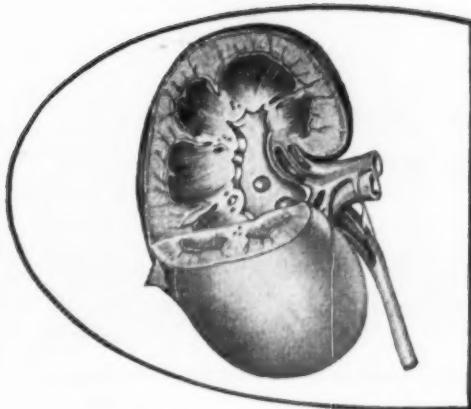
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ANNOTATION, *Brit. med. J.*, **s**, 282, 1956

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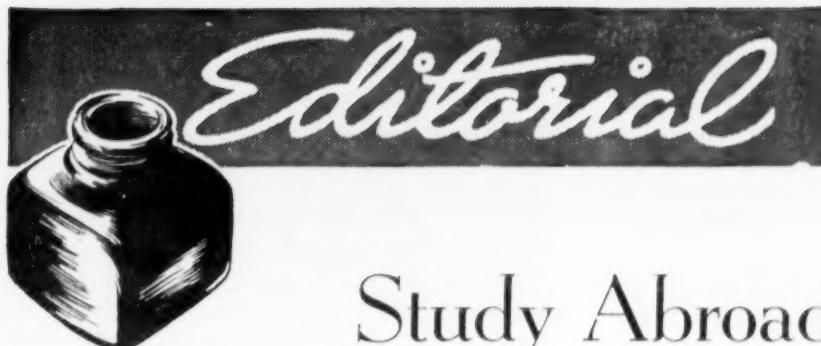
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New Series: Vol. 37—No. 443

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November 30, 1956

# Study Abroad

A Guest Editorial by Dr. Rupert J. Best, D.Sc.

The recent initiation by the Pfeiffer Foundation of the U.S.A. of a series of travelling scholarships to take Australian pharmacists to the United States, and the slightly older Travelling Scholarship provided by Kodak (Australasia) Pty. Ltd., and available for a similar purpose, have focused the attention of pharmacists on the desirability of travel and study abroad.

For many centuries scholars, scientists and others have travelled abroad with the express purpose of meeting colleagues in other countries whose work they had read or heard about. Not only did such visits take place in times of peace but also during wars. As recently as last century that great chemist Sir Humphrey Davy, accompanied by the even greater genius Michael Faraday, travelled abroad during a war without fear of being molested or hindered.

The original purpose in visiting another person or laboratory was to discuss subjects of mutual interest to the advantage of both the guest and the host, or to use equipment not available in the home laboratory of the traveller. That great good resulted from such travel was recognised, but in those days travel abroad was a major operation, and distances covered were comparatively short. The number of people travelling was also small.

Today the position is very different. It has been estimated that at any one time at least 100,000 students are studying in countries other than their own. Not only are the distances travelled greater, and the range of studies broader today, but the age range of those travelling is greater than it has ever been before. Whether the traveller is in his twenties, thirties, forties, fifties or beyond, and irrespective of his income, he is rarely able to meet out of his own pocket the cost involved in a journey to and stay in other countries. About one-third of the 100,000 people studying abroad

hold some sort of international scholarship or fellowship, most of the remainder are assisted by scholarships and grants offered by philanthropic organisations, professional, business and other organisations or bequests made by individual persons.

Not only does travel for study abroad today involve more people, more donors and a wider range of subject interests, but more is expected from such travel; the purposes have also broadened. As in earlier times, visits abroad normally benefit the person who is travelling and the people he meets in his studies. Such visits are also rewarding both to the country from which the traveller hails and the one he is visiting. The field of endeavour in which the traveller is working stands to gain, too, and so the whole world is enriched. But more recently, as travel has become easier and greater numbers have taken advantage of these facilities, the fostering of international understanding and good will between the nations has become an important purpose of scholarships designed to make travel easier.

The gain to the individual arises first by the stimulation and inspiration arising from his discussions with his colleagues. Discussions of ideas and experiences with other people, even in one's immediate circle, always bring advantages, not the least of which is that it gives greater clarity to one's own thoughts and ideas, and when these discussions take place with someone from a different country, with a different environment and way of life, the gains are likely to be even greater and the effects more far-reaching.

The country from which the traveller comes must gain in direct proportion to the increased knowledge, efficiency and enthusiasm with which the traveller returns. This is a point which is not sufficiently recognised by those in whose power it lies to encourage or oppose travel for the purpose of study. In fact, it can

be said that the gains to the profession or industry and the country generally will be far more important than any gain by the traveller himself. Advances which are made as a result of his visit abroad will be cumulative and will ultimately benefit the whole nation. Many of these benefits will arise from the factual knowledge and "know how" he brings back, from new processes, new machines, gadgets and techniques, but the greatest will surely come from the ideas he develops and hands on.

The traveller and his country are not the only ones to benefit. If the traveller has been carefully selected, he will give as well as receive. The men and women he meets in the country he is visiting will benefit in the same sort of way as he. The process is one of exchange, of give and take; and the country being visited must benefit also. Of course, the extent to which individuals and countries benefit will depend to some extent on the relative stage of advancement of the countries concerned and on the calibre of the traveller and those he meets abroad.

In addition, the influence of travel abroad on the profession or business of the visitor must be considerable. For example, it is clear that pharmacy itself, in all its branches, will gain from the operation of the scholarships mentioned in the opening paragraph.

All these advantages of travel have been known and accepted for some time. Of more recent date is the recognition that the movement of people across national boundaries, especially for the purpose of educational, scientific and cultural study, is a powerful influence in the fostering of good relations between the peoples of the world. Prejudices against other people are easily acquired, and most people have a fair share of prejudice, mainly based on wrong impressions. These wrong impressions and the prejudices which go with them are commonly removed by meeting people at work in their own country. The very act of discussing problems of mutual interest brings about a personal relationship that was lacking before and which is most often likely to bring about feelings of good will or, where it does not do this, is calculated to bring about an understanding of the people and their problems and a more tolerant and sympathetic attitude to them.

It was a recognition of this that caused UNESCO to set up as one of its major objectives the fostering of this movement of people across national boundaries as a potent means of implementing its programme of catalysing friendly relations between peoples. At the fifth session of the UNESCO General Conference it was unanimously resolved to invite Member States:

"to promote, particularly by means of study and travel grants, the international exchange of persons

for educational, scientific, and cultural travel, both by encouraging and facilitating educational travel abroad for their nationals, and also by increasing and improving study facilities offered in their countries, to persons from abroad."

The people of the United States have for some time been engaged on building up a tradition to do just this, and the recent actions of the Pfeiffer Research Foundation in the U.S.A. and the Kodak Company in Australia are in line with the above resolutions.

It is of some interest to note what action is being taken in Australia. The Education Committee of the Australian National Advisory Committee for UNESCO has set up a Working Party to investigate ways and means of implementing the UNESCO resolution quoted above. The Working Party has, as a first step, made a survey of existing opportunities to travel to and from Australia. A report listing opportunities (in the form of scholarships, etc.) available for Australians to study overseas is the first fruit of this effort, and has just been released from the press by the Commonwealth Office of Education, which keeps an active and lively interest in this work.

This is not the place to review that report, but an examination of the source of the funds which support the scholarships reveals the extent to which Australians are financed in their travels by funds supplied from the United States and the United Kingdom: Carnegie, Nuffield, Rockefeller and Rhodes are a few of the names which come to mind when we think of founders of Corporations and Foundations under whose auspices many Australians travel abroad, and everybody knows about the Fulbright Scheme. From within Australia funds are provided by the C.S.I.R.O., the Universities, Government departments and private industry for their own employees, and some of these agencies provide a few open scholarships, but the number of these latter is too small and could with advantage be increased many-fold.

However, it is when we examine the opportunities for people from other countries to come to Australia with funds provided from our own country that we realise that much more could be done to supplement the admirable scheme of UNESCO and Colombo Plan fellowships operated by the Commonwealth Government. As was pointed out earlier, the host country also derives much benefit from visitors, and whether we look at it from the point of view of whether we as a nation are taking our due share in providing opportunities for study-travel or from the point of view of self-interest, it seems that more scholarships should be provided with funds supplied from Australian sources, private and public. May we hope the excellent example set by groups like Kodak (Australasia) Pty. Ltd. will be followed by many others.

## THE MONTH

### News of Pharmaceutical Events at Home and Abroad

#### *Victorian Society to Celebrate Centenary*

The Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria will celebrate its centenary next year and already the Council is making preliminary arrangements.

The Victorian Society, which is the oldest Pharmaceutical Society in the Commonwealth, was formed in 1857 by a group of pioneers who saw the need for legislation to control the profession, the sale of poisons, etc. It was not until 1877, however, that the efforts of the pioneers in this direction reached fruition.

It is interesting to reflect that when the first meeting of the provisional committee was held, telegraphic communication between Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide had not been established; the population of Australia was less than one million; the Burke and Wills expedition had not left Melbourne; the first Victorian railway—Flinders Street to Port Melbourne—had been operating for less than three years; responsible government and manhood suffrage had just been introduced.

At its November, 1956, meeting the Council of the Society decided that its aim would be that the laying of the foundation stone of the new College of Pharmacy should be a central feature of the Centenary celebrations.

The Society plans to arrange a number of functions, scientific addresses, etc., throughout the year, to mark the important milestone in its history.

#### *Pharmaceutical Education in New Zealand*

News that the Senate of the University of New Zealand has decided that with few exceptions a University course in pharmacy will not be established will cause disappointment in New Zealand and elsewhere.

The alternative suggestion that two years at a technical school would supply the requisite training falls short of the aspiration of those who in New Zealand have been striving for higher standards of pharmaceutical education and training in the Dominion.

In an editorial article "The Pharmaceutical Journal of New Zealand" for October, 1956, expresses the opinion that the proposals are not a satisfactory answer to the problem. It points out that the plan of the proposals is not completely known, but it is obvious that the proposed technical school will be of considerable size and will accommodate the main and various subjects normally taught at such centres.

Pharmacy in New Zealand has about 400 students to be trained.

The all-important thing, as the New Zealand Journal sees the position, is that pharmacy should keep within its own control the education of pharmaceutical students.

#### *Introduction of Health Insurance Still Remote in Canada*

Health Insurance is still far from a certainty in Canada, according to a report in the August issue of the "Western Druggist." However, it is stated that its most violent opponents are reconciled to the fact that some form of Health Insurance must come eventually.

A number of years ago the then Minister of Health is reported as saying that if and when Health Insurance is introduced in Canada it will be instituted to a considerable degree on a grant-in-aid basis to the various provinces.

The original master plan of Health Insurance which was introduced in Canada by the Federal Government was also based on the assumption that enabling legislation would have to be negotiated in provincial areas in order to make the master plan effective and to make the provinces eligible for payment by the Federal Government under the plan.

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#### *Our Guest Editorial*

We are pleased to present this month a Guest Editorial by Dr. Rupert J. Best, of the Waite Research Institute attached to the University of Adelaide. Dr. Best is well qualified to appraise the value of study abroad made possible by valuable scholarships such as those given to pharmacy by the Pfeiffer Foundation of the U.S.A. and Kodak (Australasia) Pty. Ltd.

Dr. Best is Chairman of the U.N.E.S.C.O. Working Party on Exchange of Persons. He graduated in Science in the University of Adelaide, specialising in Physical Chemistry. Shortly after graduating he became lecturer in Agricultural Chemistry at the Waite Agricultural Research Institute (in the University of Adelaide). For some years he carried out research work on the chemistry of soils, especially in improving analytical techniques. He then changed his interest to plant viruses, and was among the first in the world to recognise the crystalline nature of virus. He has remained a leader in the subject for the last 20 years, and was awarded the degree of Doctor of Science by the University of Adelaide in 1948.

Dr. Best has also been active in organising the New Education Fellowship in Australia. He has been active in the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science, of which he has been section president, besides editing the handbook for the Adelaide meeting (1946).

# SCIENCE SECTION

EDITED BY A. T. S. SISSONS, B.Sc. F.P.S.

## ARTICLES

- Pharmaceutical Apparatus
- Motion Sickness.
- Paper Chromatographic Detection of New Constituents of Digitalis Lanata.
- Studies in the Genus Digitalis.
- Antioxidants in Food.
- British Pharmaceutical Codex 1954.
- Drugs Used in Mental Illness.
- Hazards of Reserpine.
- Cortisone and Aspirin
- Potassium Chlorate Poisoning
- Aromatic Mixture of Magnesium Carbonate
- Petro-Chemicals.
- Olive Oil.
- Nitrofurazone and Swine Paratyphoid.
- Treatment for Gout: Probenecid.
- Pain and Children.
- The Control of Monopoly.

## PHARMACEUTICAL APPARATUS

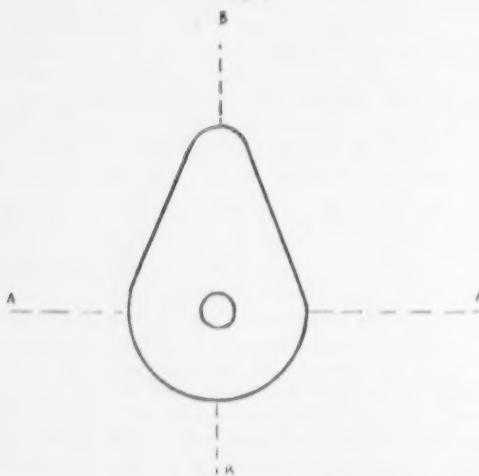
### Vacuum Filter Ring

By I. J. Carter

The use of sintered glass filter funnels for pharmaceutical or analytical procedures requires vacuum to be applied to the underside of the funnel to effect speedy filtration.

The illustrations show a vacuum filter ring which may be used as an adapter for direct filtration into bottles or flasks with a range of neck sizes. The ring is of simple construction and consists of a piece of soft rubber sheet  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. in thickness cut to shape, with a suitable-size hole bored to take the stem of the sintered glass funnel. (See Figures 1 and 2.)

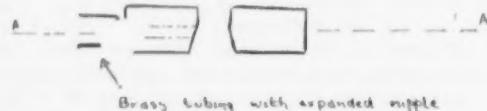
Fig 1



A piece of  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. brass tubing to which is attached an expanded nipple, to fit vacuum tubing, is inserted through one side so that the narrow end just reaches the central hole. (A large hypodermic needle suitably cut to length and mitred makes a very convenient connection.) The end of the metal tube and the lower side of the central hole are mitred to prevent accidental

blockage. It is important that the outside diameter of the brass tube is not so great as to form a ridge on the underside of the ring.

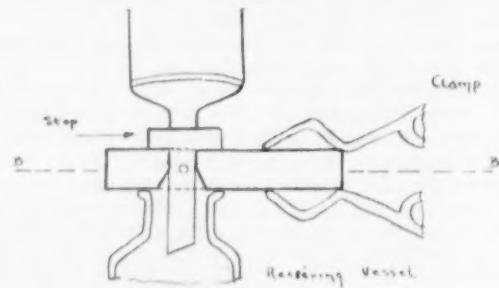
Fig 2



Brass tubing with expanded nipple

In operation the rubber ring is held in a clamp by the narrow end and the vacuum line is left attached to the fitting. (See Fig. 3.) It will be found that when the vessel to receive the filtrate is placed in position and held against the underside of the ring, filtration will commence. It may be stopped by removing the receiving vessel. To adjust the height of the lower end of the funnel stem it may be necessary to fix a stop of some type above the filter ring or the stem may be cut to length.

Fig 3



The advantages of this type of ring are:—  
Simplicity of design and low cost.

Extremely robust.

Speedy in operation.

No loss of filtrate.

Adaptable to filter directly into a large range of neck diameters of either laboratory flasks or dispensing bottles.

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## **A totally new approach to Motion Sickness Therapy**

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- ★ Longer Protection
- ★ Greater Safety Margin
- ★ Minimal Side Effects

During the last war Hyoscine Hydrobromide was adopted as the best available treatment of the widely encountered Motion Sickness.

The intervening years proved the efficiency of the drug, but little was done to overcome its unpleasant side reactions such as mouth dryness, drowsiness, etc.

But now, resulting from continuing research and development in the laboratories of Drug Houses of Australia Limited, comes Proscopine, the revolutionary product of Australian research contained in "Plassids."

"Plassids" therefore offer a major advance in Motion Sickness Therapy.

"Plassids" alone contain patented Proscopine which is only liberated by slow reaction in the body.

"Plassids" slow liberation factor gives much longer protection using smaller dosages.

"Plassids" alone reduce side effects to an absolute minimum.

"Plassids" give initial protection approximately 30 minutes after treatment.

"Plassids" slower liberated Proscopine then takes over giving protection for up to six hours from a single dose.

"Plassids" are packed in clipover folders containing six tablets.

### **PLASSIDS ADDITIONAL BENEFIT**

Whether susceptible or not to Motion Sickness, Plassids eliminate the "fagged out" feeling suffered by almost everybody after any long journey.

**"PLASSIDS"—another fully tested D·H·A product**

**Recommend with confidence this new product of  
Australian research**

## MOTION SICKNESS

By E. I. Rosenblum, M.Sc., A.R.A.C.I.

(Developmental Division, Drug Houses of Australia Ltd.)

When Joseph Spence, a noted wag,  
Was ill into a stranger's bag,  
The latter, from an upper bunk,  
Exclaimed, "Look out, that's not your trunk."  
"I thought as much," retorted Spence,  
As he repeated the offence.

—Harry Graham.

Sea-sickness, with its dire unpleasantness for the victim, has been always a cause of humour rather than sympathy in the unprostrated onlooker. Doubtless primitive man doubled up with laughter at the anguish of his fellow who first braved the coastal breakers in his dug-out and paid in nausea his sacrifice to the sea-gods. Canoes gave place to catamarans, and small boats to ocean-going ships, pushing ever further into stormier waters, and seasickness became the unhappy lot of many a voyager. The Greeks "had a name for it"—Hippocrates, Father of Medicine, tells us "Sailing on the sea shows that motion disorders the body." Land travel became mechanised, with accelerations and oscillations of greater magnitude than man's own locomotion, or that of his jogging horse could provide, and motion sickness became amphibious. There followed the rapid growth of air travel, with far greater strains and vibrations, and air-sickness became the main problem in the field. In the not too far distant future space sickness may be the physiological factor most troublesome to those who are already studying the medical aspects of space flight.

The term "motion sickness" is not new. It was first used by Irwin in the "Lancet" in 1881, to emphasise that its symptoms could be induced by prolonged motion or vibration not only at sea, but in land transport, or on swings and other amusement devices.

Sir Frederick Banting defined it as "a variety of conditions akin to sea-sickness due to repeated oscillatory movements of the body."

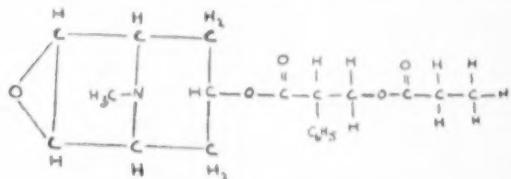
However unpleasant for the individual sufferer, motion sickness was hardly a serious medical problem until it impinged on the military necessities of World War II, with the very real possibility of troops engaged in air- and sea-borne invasions being landed in a state of prostration. Studies in Britain and the United States showed that the percentage of susceptible persons was high. A British investigation covered the reactions of 3,133 young men in small landing craft of the type used for amphibious operations, under various conditions of weather. In gentle swells, eleven per cent. suffered nausea, but this proportion rose to sixty per cent. when the sea was moderately rough, and it is probable that more than ninety per cent. would have been incapacitated under really severe conditions.

Air-sickness increases with the duration of the flight, and a 1944 report from the Surgeon-General of the HQ. Airborne Command of the U.S.A. states "in flights exceeding two and a half hours under normally expected flying conditions more than one quarter of the passengers may be expected to become air-sick." In trials with military personnel, eighty per cent. became sick on a five-hour flight in planes and gliders. The physiological mechanism which produces the familiar palor, sweating, drowsiness and nausea is not entirely clear, but is almost certainly connected with nerve impulses from the equilibrating organs of the middle ear—the semi-circular canals, which are subjected to exaggerated stimuli by the motion. Some people may become habituated and lose their susceptibility to the typical motions of ships or aircraft, but others develop a conditioned reflex, and feel nausea on merely entering a ship or plane. Work at Randolph Field, by the Division of Space Medicine of the U.S. Air Force, suggests that nausea and physical disorientation may occur during free flight, when there is a condition of weightlessness,

and the absence of gravity causes confusion between visual images and the sense of posture. A special and resistant form of motion sickness may result.

### Drugs for the Control of Motion Sickness

Little of value regarding the treatment or prevention of motion sickness was published before 1940, and the drugs in use, such as chlorbutol, were hardly more effective than the old-time recommendation for "a soup made of horseradish and rice, seasoned with herrings and sardines, to be taken with champagne." Controlled trials on board ship were made in 1944 on behalf of the British Medical Council, and hyoscine proved most satisfactory of thirteen drugs under test, 0.6 milligramme doses affording protection to from fifty to seventy-five per cent. of susceptible persons, whilst under tropical conditions hyoscine was also the most effective prophylactic. In the United States, at about the same time, hyoscine was found to prevent air-sickness in the majority of aviation personnel. The manu-



Propionylhyoscine. (Proscopine).

facture of hyoscine from *Duboisia* was established in 1940, and Drug Houses of Australia supplied the relatively large quantities used by the Allied Nations throughout the war. There are disadvantages attached to the use of hyoscine, however. Its effect passes off after about two hours, and in the necessary dose of 0.33 to 0.66 milligrammes it produces a variety of undesirable side-effects, so that most subjects are conscious of either drowsiness, blurred vision, headache, dry mouth or a combination of two or more such symptoms.

Consequently a number of synthetic drugs, mainly of the antihistaminic type have been introduced, of which dramamine is probably the best known and the most effective.

Recognising the superior potency of hyoscine, research in our Melbourne laboratory was directed towards converting hyoscine to a longer lasting drug, with reduced side-effects. Acetylhyoscine was known to hydrolyse slowly in dilute acid solution, and a number of hyoscine esters were prepared, and submitted to pharmacological examination at the University of Melbourne. It was found that acetylhyoscine differed very little in its effect from hyoscine itself, presumably being split up rapidly by the enzyme, cholinesterase, whose function is to hydrolyse acetylcholine. This accounts for the rapid release of hyoscine from acetylhyoscine, and it is liberated only a little more slowly from butyrylhyoscine by enzymes concerned with the digestion of milk-fat. Little is known of propionyl esterase in the body, if, indeed, it exists, and it is probable that hyoscine is produced from propionylhyoscine by chemical rather than by enzyme action, accounting for the prolonged sedation and reduced side-effects observed with this ester.

In experiments on groups of eighty and of forty subjects in the Department of Pharmacology at Melbourne University the effects of hyoscine and propionylhyoscine hydrobromides in doses of one-hundredth grain were compared. The only side-effect which was not very greatly reduced with the propionyl ester was dry mouth, although this symptom was appreciably lessened. Blurred vision, headache, sleepiness and nausea were very much less evident, the incidence of the last three falling practically to zero. The sedation produced by the one-hundredth grain dose commenced after an average of forty minutes with hyoscine and the mean

duration was two hours. In the case of propionyl-hyoscine it commenced after sixty minutes, and was still present three hours later, sometimes even for four hours or more.

Propionylhyoscine hydrobromide has been patented (Australian Patent 161, 262, 1952) and registered under the name of Proscopine, and is now incorporated in a modern, long-lasting motion-sickness specific under the trade name of Plassids. Experiments at the University with human subjects in a revolving chair, and the practical experience of a large number of susceptible travellers has shown that a combination of hyoscine and proscopine in very small doses, as in Plassids, provides adequate prophylaxis without disturbing side-reactions. The use of only one-three-hundredth grain of hyoscine hydrobromide reduces the dose of this drug to a point below the threshold at which untoward symptoms are felt, but still makes use of its rapid sedation, whilst the proscopine takes over to maintain protection against motion sickness for at least four hours, when a further dose may be safely taken, if the journey is prolonged beyond that period. Medication with Plassids is not confined to the person who suffers the pallor, sweating and nausea of a motion sickness attack. On long plane flights the passenger is exposed to a high degree of continuous vibration—evident by observing the oscillation patterns on water in the washroom. This may cause sleepiness and a feeling of exhaustion even in those who consider themselves good travellers, and non-susceptible to motion sickness. It has been proved that the air traveller steps from the plane after a long journey feeling much brighter and more alert if he has taken Plassids.

From hyoscine from an Australian source, made by a chemical reaction devised in our own laboratories, and pharmacologically tested and approved in Melbourne, proscopine is a useful addition to the drugs which help to relieve the strains of life in 1956.

## PAPER CHROMATOGRAPHIC DETECTION OF NEW CONSTITUENTS OF *DIGITALIS LANATA*

By Barbara J. Aldrich, Margaret L. Frith, and S. E. Wright

(Abstract of paper read at the British Pharmaceutical Conference, Dublin, 1956.)

Paper chromatograms of extracts of dried mature plants of *Digitalis lanata* showed clearly the presence of four unknown constituents which may be cardiac glycosides. These substances were apparently more water soluble than the lanatosides (digitanids) and separated from them quite clearly. One of these substances could belong to the A series (digitoxigenin derivatives), but the only evidence for this was the yellow-brown fluorescence in ultra-violet light after treatment with trichloroacetic acid. Two of the constituents appeared to be present in reasonably large amounts. Both were cardiotoxic, gave the characteristic colour reactions of cardiac glycosides, and possibly contained digitoxose or related sugars. Paper chromatographic evidence indicated that one of them yielded digoxigenin on hydrolysis. The other substance, although showing a blue fluorescence in ultra-violet light after trichloroacetic acid treatment, was apparently not a derivative of either digoxigenin or gitoxigenin. These substances in addition to several others of similar polarity or solubility, were also present in very young seedlings of *Digitalis lanata* before the lanatosides or other glycosides could be detected. It is possible that some of these substances may be precursors of the lanatosides containing, for example, more sugar residues, but the present study gives little indication of their chemical nature. It does, however, show the complexity of the problem of the constituents of *Digitalis lanata*.

(From the Pharmacy Department, University of Sydney, Australia.)

—Pharm J., September 29, 1956.

## STUDIES IN THE GENUS *DIGITALIS*

### Fermentative Degradation of *D. purpurea* Leaf

By J. M. Rowson and S. Simic

(Abstract of paper read at the British Pharmaceutical Conference, Dublin, 1956.)

The leaves of *Digitalis purpurea* rapidly lose their therapeutic potency if incorrectly dried or faulty stored. Although there is evidence to suggest that this is due to the hydrolysis of secondary glycosides to free aglycones, the reports are conflicting. In the present study, moistened digitalis leaves were allowed to ferment at 30 degrees Cent. and the glycoside complex was examined after different periods of time. The dinitrobenzoic acid reagent was used to estimate total glycosides including aglycones, and the Keller-Kiliani reaction for combined digitoxose, which is a measure of secondary glycosides. It is also a measure of two-thirds the amount of primary glycoside, since in this reaction only two of the three digitoxose molecules present in the primary glycosides can react. When a cold water macerate of digitalis leaf, prepared by shaking for 1½ hours, is examined, the primary glycosides are intact. When such a macerate is allowed to stand for three days all primary glycosides are broken down to secondary glycosides. Hence the difference in Keller-Kiliani values for these two macerations is a measure of primary glycoside present. Cold water maceration and 70 per cent. ethanolic extraction of powdered leaf are both quantitative methods. About 50 per cent. of the total glycosidal complex, present in the 1½-hour aqueous macerate, was insoluble in chloroform, but soluble in a mixture of equal volumes of chloroform and ethanol 95 per cent. The fraction was highly active pharmacologically and comprised practically the whole of the primary glycosides and up to 30 per cent. of glycosidal material free from digitoxose.

Five leaf samples examined contained little or no chloroform-soluble free aglycones. When leaf samples were moistened and allowed to ferment there was a rapid loss in total glycoside. A similar but possibly more rapid loss of pharmacological activity also occurred. During this fermentation primary glycosides rapidly split up to form secondary glycosides. The chloroform-insoluble, digitoxose-free glycosidal material also disappeared rapidly. The secondary glycosides were somewhat more resistant, but eventually broke down, at least in so far as the butenolide linkage was concerned. From these glycosides digitoxose disappeared at about the same rate. At no time was there any evidence to suggest that free aglycones were being produced during these humid conditions of storage. This evidence for the almost complete absence of aglycone in digitalis leaf, coupled with the presence of pharmacologically potent materials insoluble in chloroform, confirms the general usefulness of the dinitrobenzoic acid method of estimation of 70 per cent. ethanol extracts of these leaves.

(From the Museum of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.)

—Pharm. J., September 29, 1956.

## ANTIOXIDANTS IN FOOD

At the Sheffield meeting of the British Association, Dr. Lea, Low Temperature Research Station, Cambridge, gave a paper on "Antioxidants in Food." The following abstract appeared in *The Chemist and Druggist*, September 8, 1956:—

The addition of chemical antioxidants to food, in the way that they were added to rubber and petroleum products, was not permitted at present in Britain. A limited use of antioxidants was, however, permissible in a number of other countries—in the U.S., for example, it was estimated that some 1,000 tons per year were used for that purpose, a large quantity when it was remembered that most antioxidants were employed

in food at the rate of one part in 10,000. In 1954 the preservative sub-committee of the Food Standards Committee had made a number of recommendations that indicated that a similar use of antioxidants would be permitted in Britain in the not too distant future.

Quite apart from any considerations of the desirability or otherwise of adding antioxidants to food for consumption by humans or animals, the action of those substances was a cause for concern because storage behaviour was often influenced in marked degree by the pro- and anti-oxidants which food already contained naturally, or which it acquired fortuitously during handling and processing.

The defects arising from the action of atmospheric oxygen, and which sometimes could be combated by the use of antioxidants included loss of natural "fresh" aroma and flavour and the development of "rancid" or other "off" odours and flavours, discolorations, and loss of nutritive value due to destruction of vitamins A, E and C.

Dr. Lea outlined factors influencing oxidation. In a fat, for example, its degree of unsaturation was of great importance. Oxidation could be influenced by high temperature, light (ultra-violet and blue), ionising radiations ( $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$  and X-rays), peroxides, presence of metal ions, etc.

Antioxidants which had been found useful in fats and other foods were usually ortho- or para-substituted phenolic compounds. There were the hydroquinone derivatives, for example  $\alpha$ -tocopherol (vitamin E) and  $\alpha$ -tocopheryl quinone; there were pyrogallol derivatives such as gallic acid (used as esters) and L-epigallocatechin gallate (which occurred in tea.) Of the catechol derivatives chlorogenic acid and caffeoic acid esters were employed as antioxidants.

Naturally occurring flavonols such as quercetin and rhamnetin as well as synthetic flavonols were used as antioxidants. Other synthetic compounds that had been "taken over" from the petroleum industry included BHA (butylated hydroxy anisole) and BHT (butylated hydroxytoluene). Certain aromatic amino compounds (e.g., D.P.P.D., and santoquin) had found a limited use, for example, in the preservation of carotene in dried lucerne and for stabilisation of vitamin A. A second large class of substances included synergists and metal deactivators which reinforced the antioxidant activity of the primary inhibitors often by complexing traces of pro-oxidant metals. Substances of that type such as citric acid and its oil-soluble mono-esters (e.g., ascorbyl palmitate) could help to protect edible fats and oils against traces of copper and iron picked up from the plant during processing. Ascorbic acid was also a useful inhibitor of enzyme browning in fruit and vegetables, a form of deterioration due to the oxidation of polyphenolic constituents under the influence of a copper-containing enzyme.

Metal containers (such as tin-plate) might greatly increase oxidation and it was probable that vitamin E acted as a biological antioxidant in the living animal.

## BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL CODEX 1954

### Amendments

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain has authorised the publication of the following amendments to the British Pharmaceutical Codex, 1954:

#### DUSTING-POWDER OF SALICYLIC ACID, COMPOUND

Page 963, line 19

For N/2 hydrochloric acid read N/2 sodium hydroxide.

#### DUSTING POWDER OF ZINC OXIDE AND BORIC ACID

Page 963

Delete the Assays and insert:

Assay for zinc oxide. To about 1.5 g., accurately weighed, add 10 ml. of dilute hydrochloric acid and 20 ml. of water, boil for five minutes under a reflux condenser, filter if necessary, and wash the condenser, flask and

filter with three successive portions, each of 5 ml. of water; neutralise the combined filtrate and washings with solution of sodium carbonate, using solution of methyl orange as indicator, boil, add a further 10 ml. of solution of sodium carbonate, filter, wash the residue with five successive portions, each of 5 ml. of water, retaining the combined filtrate and washings for the determination of boric acid, and ignite the residue of zinc oxide to constant weight.

Assay for boric acid. Acidify the combined filtrate and washings obtained in the determination of zinc oxide with dilute hydrochloric acid, using solution of methyl orange as indicator, and boil under a reflux condenser to remove carbon dioxide; cool, wash the condenser with two successive portions, each of 5 ml. of water, neutralise the combined solution and washings with N/1 sodium hydroxide, add 100 ml. of glycerin, and titrate with N/1 sodium hydroxide using solution of phenolphthalein as indicator; each ml. of N/1 sodium hydroxide is equivalent to 0.06184 g. of  $H_3BO_3$ .

#### EYE LOTION OF MERCURIC OXYCYANIDE

Page 997, line 6 from foot

For 0.022 to 0.025 read 0.020 to 0.026.

#### GARGLE OF FERRIC CHLORIDE

Page 1002

Delete the Assays and insert:

Assay for ferric chloride. Saturate 50 ml. with sulphur dioxide by passing a gentle stream of the gas; add 30 ml. of water, boil gently to expel the sulphur dioxide completely, replacing the water lost by evaporation, cool, and dilute to 100 ml. with water; to 90 ml. of this solution, representing 45 ml. of sample, add solution of potassium permanganate, dropwise, until the pink colour persists for 15 seconds; add 10 ml. of dilute sulphuric acid, maintain a current of carbon dioxide through the flask, and titrate with N/10 titanous chloride using solution of ammonium thiocyanate as indicator; each ml. of N/10 titanous chloride is equivalent to 0.01622 g. of  $FeCl_3$ .

Assay for potassium chlorate. To 2 m. add 8 ml. of water, 1 g. of potassium iodide and 30 ml. of hydrochloric acid, allow to stand for three minutes, add 120 ml. of water, titrate the liberated iodine with N/10 sodium thiosulphate using mucilage of starch as indicator, and deduct 0.12 ml. for each 0.1 per cent. of  $FeCl_3$  found in the determination of ferric chloride; each ml. of N/10 sodium thiosulphate represented by the difference is equivalent to 0.002043 g. of  $KClO_3$ .

#### LINCTUS OF SQUILL, OPIATE

Page 1030

Delete lines 28 to 30 and insert:

water-bath to remove any chloroform, cool, and dilute to 100 ml. with water; continue by the method of the British Pharmacopoeia for Camphorated Tincture of Opium using 20 ml. of this solution and commencing

#### LOTION OF LEAD

Page 1037, line 12

For 0.578 to 0.722 read 0.56 to 0.74

#### LOTION OF LEAD, EVAPORATING

Page 1037, line 7 from foot

For 0.578 to 0.722 read 0.56 to 0.74

#### LOTION OF LEAD WITH OPIUM

Page 1038, line 14

For 0.578 to 0.722 read 0.56 to 0.74

#### LOTION OF SALICYLIC ACID AND MERCURIC CHLORIDE

Page 1039, line 15

For 0.095 to 0.110 read 0.09 to 0.11

#### MIXTURE OF COLCHICUM AND SODIUM SALICYLATE

Page 1055, line 2

For 6.40 read 6.25

Delete the Assays and insert:

Assay for sodium salicylate. To 5 ml. add 10 ml. of dilute hydrochloric acid, and extract with six successive portions, each of 25 ml., of chloroform; combine the extracts, and wash with successive small portions of water until the washings are free from chloride; evap-

orate the combined extracts at as low a temperature as possible, using a current of air to facilitate the operation; dissolve the residue in 10 ml. of a cohol (95 per cent.), previously neutralised to solution of phenolphthalein, and titrate with N/10 sodium hydroxide using solution of phenolphthalein as indicator; each ml. of N/10 sodium hydroxide is equivalent to 0.01601 g. of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na.

Assay for potassium bicarbonate. Dilute 10 ml. with 150 ml. of water, add 25 ml. of N/2 hydrochloric acid, boil for 10 minutes under a reflux condenser, wash the condenser with 25 ml. of hot water, and titrate the excess of acid in the hot solution with N/2 sodium hydroxide using solution of phenolphthalein as indicator; each ml. of N/2 hydrochloric acid is equivalent to 0.05005 g. of KHCO<sub>3</sub>.

#### MIXTURE OF GENTIAN, ACID

Page 1057

Delete the Assay and insert:

Assay. Dilute 20 ml. with 150 ml. of water, add 0.5 g. of calcium carbonate, and titrate with N/10 silver nitrate using solution of potassium chromate as indicator; each ml. of N/10 silver nitrate is equivalent to 0.003647 g. of HCl.

#### MIXTURE OF IPECACUANHA, ALKALINE

Page 1058, lines 2 and 3 from foot

For make distinctly alkaline to litmus paper with solution of sodium hydroxide read add 5 ml. of solution of sodium hydroxide.

#### MIXTURE OF POTASSIUM BROMIDE AND CHLORAL

Page 1066, line 3

For 2.15 to 2.40 read 2.10 to 2.45

line 7

For To 10 ml. add 25 ml. of N/10 sodium hydroxide read To 10 ml. at 20° to 22° add 25 ml. of N/10 sodium hydroxide at the same temperature.

#### MIXTURE OF POTASSIUM BROMIDE AND VALERIAN

Page 1066, line 5 from foot

For 1.20 read 1.25

#### MIXTURE OF SODIUM SALICYLATE

Page 1074, line 17

For 4.27 to 4.80 read 4.15 to 4.90.

Delete the Assay for sodium salicylate and insert:

Assay for sodium salicylate. Determine by the method for sodium salicylate in Mixture of Colchicum and Sodium Salicylate, using 10 ml.; each ml. of N/10 sodium hydroxide is equivalent to 0.01601 g. of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na.

#### OINTMENT OF BENZOIC ACID, COMPOUND

Page 1084 line 21 from foot

For 2.85 to 3.15 read 2.7 to 3.3

Delete lines 7 to 9 from foot and insert:

cautiously add hydrochloric acid to the combined aqueous extracts until the solution is distinctly acid to litmus paper, and extract with four successive portions, each of 25 ml., of solvent ether; combine the extracts, evaporate off the ether at a temperature not exceeding 40°, dissolve the residue in 5 ml. of N/2 sodium hydroxide, add 50 ml. of

#### SPRAY OF ADRENALINE

Page 1140, line 11 from foot

For 0.0085 to 0.0115 read 0.0083 to 0.0118

#### SPRAY OF ADRENALINE AND ATROPINE, COMPOUND

Page 1141, line 19

For 0.105 to 0.120 read 0.103 to 0.125

line 21

For 0.75 to 0.84 read 0.72 to 0.88

#### SPRAY OF ISOPRENALEINE SULPHATE, COMPOUND

Page 1143, line 16

For 0.184 to 0.210 read 0.18 to 0.22

line 18

For 2.35 to 2.63 read 2.25 to 2.75

#### TINCTURE OF GELSEMIUM

Page 1199, line 7 from foot

For low bulk read about 20 ml.

## DRUGS USED IN MENTAL ILLNESS

In a review of recent progress in the pharmaceutical industry (U.S.A.) a report prepared by the research department of Harris Upjohn & Co. devoted a section to Mental Illness and, in this connection, stated (*American Professional Pharmacist*, June, 1956):—

"The introduction of agents effective in the therapy of emotional illnesses ranks among the outstanding contributions of recent years. An editorial in *Annals of Internal Medicine* claimed that "the use of reserpine as well as chlorpromazine has caused a minor revolution in the therapeutic procedures of many of the large hospitals throughout the country."

It is estimated that 9,000,000 people in the U.S. are suffering from some form of mental illness and present-day statistics indicate that one out of every twelve persons spends some part of his life in a mental hospital. It is thus apparent that the market potential of an agent effective in the treatment of mental illness is very substantial. In view of the many different types of psychiatric disorders, it is logical to expect that no single agent will be equally successful in the management of all mental disorders.

In addition to chlorpromazine and reserpine, agents which are helpful in a wide variety of mental diseases, newer products include Meratran and Frenquel, Equanil and Miltown. These drugs have proven useful in many disorders other than mental illness. Effective use of these agents has been made in the treatment of high blood pressure, in the alleviation of certain symptoms associated with cancer, and in treatment of gastrointestinal conditions.

## HAZARDS OF RESERPINE

American manufacturers have been warned by the chief of the New Drug Branch of the Food and Drug Administration that as the use of reserpine has extended it has become increasingly apparent that it is not the innocuous substance it was first thought to be. The letter goes on to say that there are contra-indications, and the safe level for long-term outpatient maintenance is lower than the originally recommended dosage schedule. A number of firms marketing reserpine have voluntarily reduced the dosage they are recommending and have added additional warning statements in their literature to physicians. Firms whose new drug applications have recently become effective have incorporated many of these changed concepts into their labelling. The Branch considers that there is an urgent need to bring all reserpine labelling into conformity with the best current knowledge and to ensure that this information reaches physicians.—*Pharm. J.*, September 22, 1956.

## CORTISONE AND ASPIRIN

Comparative trials by the Medical Research Council and the Nuffield Foundation (see *P.J.*, June 5, 1954, p. 466, and September 24, 1955, p. 305) have shown that there is remarkably little difference in the effects of aspirin and cortisone on adult patients with early rheumatoid arthritis. Very similar results have now been obtained in an extension of this study by B. M. Ansell et al. (*Brit. Med. F.*, 1956, 1, 1075) who compared the two drugs in the treatment of juvenile rheumatoid arthritis. Twenty-five children took part in the trial and 13 were treated with cortisone and 12 with aspirin. In all cases, the disease had been defined as starting before the age of 16 years and the polyarthritis was of rheumatoid type, involving two or more joints, and present for a period up to nine months. The patients were assessed at intervals up to one year from the start of treatment, maintenance dosage at the end

of the year being between 50 and 100 mgm. of cortisone in the six patients which were then still on treatment. Results during the first 13 weeks and at one year were similar to those in the adult trial except that in both groups rather more children improved than did adults. Both treatment groups improved clinically and functionally to a similar extent. X-ray examinations showed an increase in the number with erosions—from three to six in the cortisone group and from two to five in the aspirin group. Complications which could be ascribed to the drugs were few. The authors conclude that the effects of cortisone relative to those of aspirin in childhood were no different from those reported in the adult group of rheumatoid arthritis patients.—"Pharm. J." May 19, 1956.

### POTASSIUM CHLORATE POISONING

The fatal dose of potassium chlorate varies greatly. It has been reported, for instance, that one gramme caused the death of a child, whereas adults have swallowed 40 to 50 gm. without developing serious symptoms. Another source has stated that the minimum lethal dose is 12 gm. for an adult, 5 gm. for a child and one gramme for an infant. In the *Lancet* of May 5, P. Davies reports the case of a man of 54 who was admitted to hospital after using potassium chlorate for the treatment of a faecal ulcer. In the course of about an hour he had applied about 13 gm. of the salt which he had obtained from a pharmacy. But, instead of following the pharmacist's instructions to wash out his mouth, he had swallowed the crystals. The same night anorexia, nausea, and a burning retro-sternal pain developed. He noticed that he was blue and that his urine and stools were dark. Haemolysis was complicated by oliguria resulting from renal damage. Treatment of the latter condition was successfully based on the Bull régime which involves the prevention and cure of secondary infection and the provision of a protein-free high-calorie diet.—"Pharm. J.", May 12, 1956.

### AROMATIC MIXTURE OF MAGNESIUM CARBONATE

A test prescription for Mist. Mag. Carb. Aromat. was found by the analyst to the London Executive Council to contain a slight excess of magnesium. A smaller excess was found by the contractor's independent analyst. The two sets of figures are shown in the following table.

	B.P.C. Requirements	Council's Analyst	Independent Analyst
Magnesium . . . .	0.55-0.65	0.68	0.66
Sodium bicarbonate .	4.30-4.84	4.53	4.57

In their report the independent analyst stated that the Codex assay for magnesium was in error in regard to the directive (p. 1062, line 20), "each g. of residue is equivalent to 0.6032 g. of Mg.," arguing that the light magnesium carbonate of the British Pharmacopoeia is not chemically pure; it contains tolerated impurities the effect of which is that in fact each gm. of residue is equivalent to less than 0.6032 gm. of Mg. and the result is an over-estimate of Mg.

The Editor of the British Pharmaceutical Codex, who has read the original report, comments as follows: "In specifying the permitted tolerances for the content of light magnesium carbonate in terms of 'content of magnesium' and determining this content by a method which does not determine actual magnesium, a convention has

been used which is well understood by analysts for dealing with materials of indefinite composition. The B.P. standard for light magnesium carbonate does not contain a specification for Mg. It is, however, much more convenient to relate the specification to magnesium content than to specify 'Content of residue on ignition of 47½ per cent.-alcohol-insoluble material'; which, in fact, is determined.

"Similar conventions are used in allowing for the effect of volatile bases from Liquid Extract of Liquorice in specifying the content of ammonium bicarbonate in certain mixtures and in other specifications where the other ingredients effect the result of an assay. If these conventions are not to be accepted, it means that future specifications will need to be more cumbersome and therefore less clear than at present to pharmacists and others who are not analysts. In assaying complex preparations it has to be accepted that the assay results may represent something not entirely identical with what is being determined, and provided due allowance is made in the specification no harm is done. It is essential, however, that the entire B.P.C. standard including specification, method of assay and conversion factor is accepted as an entity as intended by those responsible for the book. The independent analyst is not justified in applying a different method of assay and comparing the result so obtained with the B.P.C. specification, as the Council's analyst very properly comments."—"Pharm. J.", June 2, 1956.

### PETRO-CHEMICALS

#### Further British Developments

Important developments in the manufacture in Great Britain of new industrial chemicals from petroleum are announced by Monsanto Chemicals Ltd.

The company plans to spend some £8½ millions on the first stage of a long-term expansion programme. A new factory will be constructed on a 100-acre site along the Fawley, Hants., refinery of the Esso Petroleum Co., from which Monsanto will draw feedstock for conversion into a wide variety of raw materials for use in the plastics, textile, rubber, paint, paper and other manufacturing industries. The first plant to be erected will be for the manufacture of 10,000 tons of polyethylene a year.

Construction is beginning shortly and production is scheduled to start in 1958. The next products in the programme will be copolymers of acrylonitrile, butadiene and other monomers. Following that a major plant is to be constructed for the manufacture of acrylonitrile, an essential raw material for synthetic polymers and synthetic fibres used in the production of clothing materials and other textile fabrics.—"Chemist and Druggist", September 8, 1956.

### OLIVE OIL

#### Production in Cyprus

There are some 300 varieties of *Olea europaea*, the fruit of which yields the olive oil of commerce. The tree is cultivated chiefly in Mediterranean countries, notably in Spain, Italy and Greece, but it is also grown to a smaller extent in other parts of the world, including India, South Africa, Australia and California.

Much of the extraction is still carried out by primitive methods, but good quality oil will only be obtained if mature, sound fruits are treated in clean apparatus. The higher grades of oil receive no further treatment, other than sedimentation and filtration. However, an appreciable proportion of commercial oil is obtained from second and subsequent pressings. Low grade oil from these and other pressings is due to the use of immature or over-ripe, unsound fruit and poor processing methods. The resultant low grade oil is often subjected to chemical refining, which may include

treatment with alkali and steam deodorisation. The refined, deodorised oil may be blended with a proportion of untreated oil (virgin oil) in order to restore the olive flavour. Quality cannot be judged by chemical tests alone and, apart from acidity, assessment is mainly by organoleptic examination.

Wild olive trees flourish in Cyprus, state W. D. Raymond and J. B. Ward in *Colonial Plant and Animal Products*, but since World War I the importation of good grafting material from newer varieties has been encouraged, and the cultivation of the olive now forms an important part of the agricultural economy of the Island. The tree grows at altitudes from sea-level up to 1,000 feet and in all districts. The preparation of olives for pickling is more profitable than preparing them for oil, hence growers pickle them in preference to pressing them for oil. Olive trees are grown in all districts, the distribution being from 8 to 24 per cent. of the total number of olive trees grown on the island. New plantings from 1946 onwards have varied from 51,000 to 87,000 trees per annum. The total number of trees in 1954 was 2,197,400. These gave 1.9 m. okes of olives that yielded 1 m. okes of olive oil (an oke is 2.8 lb.).

Since the war, modern pressing and clarifying plants have been installed; these now total about 120, of which 12 belong to co-operative societies. The total number of all olive presses in Cyprus is much greater at about 1,000, and it is estimated that the smaller presses still produce half of the total oil made. The introduction of modern processing machinery does not appear to have brought about the considerable improvement in quality of the oil which was expected, although this may be due in part to bad technique and in part to the use of unsound fruit. Because the olive frequently grows in Cyprus in scattered localities, the collection of the fruits and their immediate transport to presses is a matter that is difficult to arrange. Although important in the agricultural economy, neither olives nor olive oil form a significant part of the exports from Cyprus. The value of the oil produced in the Island in 1954 was estimated to be worth £630,000. The olive oil examined at the Colonial Products Laboratory of the Imperial Institute conformed with the B.P. requirements and the B.S. specification 630:1950, but the flavour and colour were unacceptable to United Kingdom importers.—*Pharm. J.*, August 4, 1956.

#### NITROFURAZONE AND SWINE PARATYPHOID

Swine paratyphoid is a disease caused by the bacterium, *Salmonella cholerae suis*, which attacks pigs in the first six months of their life. The disease usually takes the form of a chronic diarrhoea, associated with a rapid loss of body condition and weight. The accepted method of treatment is the administration of sulphonamides. Felgate and Swann noted that although the diarrhoea was overcome by this treatment some pigs were slow to fatten, and they considered that these animals still carried the causal organism, which retarded their rate of recovery, and provided a potential reservoir for reinfection. A search was made, therefore, for a drug which would remove the *Salmonella cholerae suis* from the carrier pigs. For this purpose the nitrofuran group was an obvious choice, because of its success in eliminating the carriers of the poultry diseases caused by other *Salmonella* organisms. The compound selected for this investigation was nitrofurazone (5-nitro-2-furaldehyde semicarbazone), which is also used extensively for the control of coccidiosis in poultry. A preparation containing 11.2 per cent. nitrofurazone was mixed in the feed at the rate of 1 oz. of the preparation to a stone of dry pig meal (30 gm. to 6.3 kgm.) making a concentration of 0.05 per cent. nitrofurazone in the medicated feed. This treatment was used in ten outbreaks of swine paratyphoid as a supplement to the conventional sulphonamide therapy, and continued daily until an improvement was observed.

Some mildly affected pigs received the nitrofurazone premix daily for a week without the sulphonamide. In the majority of cases the response to this treatment was good and the affected pigs rapidly improved in weight and condition. Some pigs, however, showed a tendency to relapse after an initial improvement, but a satisfactory response to further periods of treatment was noted. The authors suggest that these relapses may have been due to inadequate nitrofurazone dosing, or to reinfection as a result of bad hygiene. As the relapses were on farms where the hygiene was poor, they incline to the latter view.—*Export Review*, August, 1956.

#### TREATMENT FOR GOUT: PROBENECID

Among the once common afflictions that are now comparatively rare gout is an outstanding instance. Changes in dietary habits may account for its rarity, but there still remains the few in whom the metabolism of urates becomes unbalanced. Whilst one occasionally meets the odd case of acute gout where redness, pain and swelling around the joint are the main features, the chronic type of case in which *gouty tophi* — or chalk stones, as patients invariably call them — are a feature. The occurrence of such a case recently brings to mind the present concepts on the treatment of gout.

The usual course of the disease is marked by a series of sudden attacks of acute gouty arthritis in which the tissues surrounding the joint are inflamed to such a degree that the skin is tight, red and shiny and acutely sensitive to even the lightest touch. Between these attacks there is a slow and insidious deposit of urates in the adjacent tissues which eventually leads to deformity and disablement.

The condition arises from a defect in purine metabolism leading to the deposit of urates around the joint structure which produce tension and pain, occasionally requiring incision to provide relief. The subsequent discharge consists of a white chalk-like paste which is mostly composed of sodium monourate. The condition may be widespread and the nodules or tophi may be present in many joints, and in other situations such as the cartilaginous portions of the ears.

Treatment resolves itself into the management of the acute and the chronic case. In the former, rest in bed, avoidance of pressure on the affected part and full doses of colchicine and salicylates is a well-established regime. Phenylbutazone has given some striking results, but in elderly patients the risk of side-reactions renders it advisable to use it with considerable caution. But as the course is only a short one these considerations are of less importance than usual.

Cortisone has given some dramatic results in the acute attack, but there is a tendency to early relapses once treatment is discontinued. It is, however, a promising therapeutic agent and more investigations will undoubtedly be carried out.

In the treatment of the chronic case there has in the past been little else than colchicine, which was a valuable drug, but if given for long periods could give rise to unpleasant symptoms. Recently, there has been introduced a new remedy Probenecid, which appears to be very effective in eliminating urates from the blood. Chemically it is *p*-(Dipropylsulphamyl) benzoic acid and was first employed to prolong the effect of penicillin and para-aminosalicylic acid, as by a reversible enzymatic action it inhibits the renal excretion of certain organic compounds.

Its action in eliminating urates depends on it depressing the resorption of these salts in the renal tubules. Its action is selective as it does not affect the resorption of other common constituents of the bloodstream such as glucose, urea and creatinine, nor does it affect the excretion of the other antibiotics streptomycin, chloramphenicol, Aureomycin and Terramycin.

In the treatment of chronic gout some promising results have been achieved; the size of *gouty tophi* being reduced and the formation of fresh ones retarded, thus

preventing to a considerable degree the crippling deformity that so often supervenes in the untreated case. The drug is relatively non-toxic, but occasionally precipitates an attack of acute gout, but it is not necessary to withhold the drug if colchicine is given and the urine kept alkaline to prevent the precipitation of urates.

When giving probenecid it is essential to withhold salicylates or aspirin as the two drugs are antagonistic. As probenecid is not an analgesic it may be necessary to give some such drug in addition. Although the drug is excreted by the kidney the resorption in the tubules is so great that the blood level is maintained for considerable periods; consequently the daily dose is only two grams given in four divided doses.

In older patients where there is the possibility of renal function being impaired it is advisable to give a smaller dose. Altogether it would seem that in probenecid we have a remedy for gout that is more effective than any previously available.—*Retail Chemist*, September, 1956.

## PAIN AND CHILDREN

The treatment of pain in the young child is essentially the treatment of the cause, says the *British Medical Journal* in its "Any Questions?" column (May 12, p. 1124). Once the cause has been found and the appropriate management instituted, the relief of pain can be attempted without the danger of masking symptoms and delaying diagnosis. Aspirin (the reply continues) remains the most valuable drug, and one grain per year of age, repeated twice or three times in the 24 hours if necessary, is a suitable dose; under six months half a grain and from then up to a year one grain should be given. For more severe pain opium in some form will be necessary, but it should be used with restraint in the first year of life. Nepenthe is a convenient preparation. In the first year the dose would be a half to one minim and after that one minim per year of age. It can be given by mouth or by intramuscular injection. Morphine can be used provided the dose is always strictly related to the weight of the child. Clark's formula,

$$\text{Child's dose} = \frac{\text{weight in pounds}}{150} \times \text{adult dose}$$

is a suitable method of calculation. The treatment of severe pain with pethidine would call for 5 mgm. per year of age after the second year. For the lesser discomforts and fretfulness of the first year sodium amylobarbitone or phenobarbitone one-quarter to one grain, depending on the size of the child, is generally effective.

## THE CONTROL OF MONOPOLY

At the 118th meeting of the British Association, held at Sheffield, September, 1956, a paper dealing with The Control of Monopoly was presented by Mr. A. Hunter. The *Pharmaceutical Journal*, September 8, gave the following abstract.

The 1956 Restrictive Trade Practices Act represents a new phase in monopoly legislation. The stage of fact-finding activities is over and control is now required. This paper assesses what the investigation of the Monopolies Commission brought to light concerning the nature of "the public interest" in relation to monopoly in this country and then goes on to gauge the appropriateness of the methods proposed for control.

The reports of the Commission fall into two classes: those dealing with "competitive" industrial structures (industries of small and medium-sized firms) and those dealing with "oligopolistic" structures where the industry is dominated by only a few firms. In the "competitive" industries attempts at complete control of prices and outputs are rare; the main efforts are directed to restraining competition. This is the scene of restrictive practices normally operated by trade associations. One of the main practices is exclusive dealing, i.e., exclusive

selling to one group of distributors or exclusive buying from one group of manufacturers. "Independents" are frozen out of much of the trade of the industry. The collective boycott (i.e., "stop lists" or "black lists") disciplines members and keeps out those who are not *persona grata*. Incentives such as special "association" rebates help keep the loyalty of the members. Price-fixing is the other main restrictive practice. Manufacturers agree to average their costs to find an agreed price instead of quoting competitive prices. Or distributors agree to enforce resale price maintenance, with the co-operation of the suppliers, by applying the stop-list to price-cutting distributors.

The main danger of these practices is that they protect. They insulate existing businesses from the competition of new firms, new processes and new methods of distribution and induce a live-and-let-live attitude of mind in what should be competitive circumstances. The evidence seems to show that restrictive practices are our greatest monopoly problem; and only the most strenuous efforts will control them, and, more important, reverse the attitude they encourage.

A qualified approval of oligopolies appears to be the net result of the Commission's enquiries. The difficulty of entry and the lack of price competition is deprecated; but there are advantages which more than compensate. Oligopolists compete intensively; they do so through technical advance and innovation; each tries to "keep ahead of the crowd." The rate of progress is greater than is found in smaller-scale industry because oligopolists have the finance, the personnel and the attitude for promoting research and development. In addition, the large-scale efficiency of the bigger firms permits them to hold their own in international trade markets in competition with the industries of Germany and the U.S.A. The Commission seems prepared to underwrite this "big business" type of competition, but not without qualifications and safeguards. Restrictive practices are banned for oligopolists as for others; the "countervailing power" of large buyers is encouraged wherever possible; and above all the Commission must be satisfied that the oligopolised industry is in efficient and progressive hands.

How do the proposed methods of control measure up to these problems? The Restrictive Trade Practices Act appears sound so far as it goes. Registration of agreements may succeed in creating an unfavourable climate of opinion on restrictive practices. Sweden had dissolved one-third of its agreements in this way. It has been suggested that a "legal" type of tribunal is bound to be "soft," but the Restrictive Practices Court does not have this appearance. The Court is instructed to presume all agreements which have been registered as against the public interest; and it is, in effect, asked only to review cases to discover if they can be suspected on one or more of six specified grounds. And there is no appeal from the Court's interpretation of the facts.

The main weakness of the control situation will concern oligopoly. Many oligopolistic arrangements can be based on understandings; if successfully concealed, they escape the net of registration. And frequently understandings can be extended to enforce identical prices or conditions of trade on the distributors. In any case, the Restrictive Practices Court is probably not appropriate for the judgment of oligopolies. The crucial factors in such industries are not restrictive practices—undesirable though they may be. It is much more important to know about the rate of development, the direction of amalgamation movements, ownership of subsidiaries, foreign ties, the percentage of turnover put to research and development, etc. But a ready-made solution is to hand. The Monopolies Commission can be employed under the powers of the 1948 Act; it has the appropriate technique, and certainly has the experience, for ad hoc examination; and its recommendations can be put into force by a statutory order executed by the Government. The ideal combination of scrutiny and control is contained in this procedure; it is only required that the Government takes advantage of it.



#### Care in Literal Interpretation of Directions

May I comment on the direction:

"p.r.n. nocte sumend."

This is often written by doctors on sleeping draughts and barbiturate tablets. It is often overlooked that the patient may interpret the literal direction wrongly. I prefer: "... to be taken at bedtime when required," but it seems common practice to write: "... to be taken at night when required," or worse: "... to be taken when required at night."

Either of these may be, in fact, the doctor's intention, e.g., if he intends that the patient take a second dose later in the night if sleep has not been induced by the first dose; but unless the doctor has told the patient verbally to do this, a misinterpretation is possible.

I recently had a case, dispensed elsewhere, where I was consulted by a harassed husband whose wife had during the night ingested 10½ grains of Pentobarbitone Sodium.

I immediately phoned an ambulance, and the woman was treated in hospital for mild overdosage.

In my opinion, if the literal interpretation is to be used, the onus is on the pharmacist to warn the patient verbally that too frequent dosage must be avoided.

—T.K. (Q.).

On page 12 of the A.P.F. there is an important paragraph headed "Adequate Written Directions." Pharmacists can often bring such points in the prescribing procedure to the attention of medical men.

To some extent the A.P.F. paragraph is connected with the special point, which is well emphasised by the correspondent.

#### Canister for Heat Treating Eye-Drops

An extruded aluminium container of the "Sulphatriad 100" type is a suitable vessel for a ½ fl. oz. dropper-bottle.

In the centre of the lid a hole is cut, of sufficient diameter to allow protrusion of the rubber bulb of the dropper. It is an advantage if the bulb fits snugly through this hole.

Small holes are punched in the bottom of the container and also around the wall just below the level of the thread (corresponding to the level of the shoulder of the dropper-bottle, when inside the container).

The whole apparatus is immersed in water, which is brought to the boil, the level of the boiling water being maintained just above the holes in the wall of the container. Average temperatures recorded in the space between the lid and the surface of the boiling water are of the order of 92 deg. C.

—J.B. (Vic.).

#### Aureomycin Eye-drops

Can the oral capsules of Aureomycin, of commerce, be used to provide the Aureomycin Hydrochloride required in the preparation of Eye-drops of Aureomycin, A.P.F.? This question has been posed to the Pharmaceuticals Department of the Victorian College of Pharmacy on several occasions recently.

One practising pharmacist found that if proprietary capsules are used and the "filler" filtered out, then the amount of Borax stated in the A.P.F. formula added, precipitation occurs.

The manufacturer's agents inform us that their principals do not recommend the above procedure, but only the use of the special "eye-drop kits," which are made for the purpose. The whole problem was referred to by Dr. S. E. Wright ("Austral. J. Pharm.", 1951, 32, 1160), who stated:

"The hydrochloride may be used alone in sterile water (0.5 per cent.). This solution is irritating, and a borax buffer is advocated. The usual formula is aureomycin 25 mgm., borax 25 mgm., sodium chloride 63 mgm., sterile water 5 ml.

It is not advisable to use the aureomycin capsules for the preparation of eye-drops, as experiment has shown that after filtering off the filler and adding borax to the filtrate, precipitation of aureomycin occurs, as the final solution is not sufficiently alkaline.

It is probable that the aureomycin may vary from batch to batch at present, and unless pure aureomycin hydrochloride is available, the special aureomycin eye-drops dispensing kits prepared by manufacturers must be used."... "Aureomycin hydrochloride is not soluble in water at pH7, but being amphoteric, redissolves in alkaline solution."

—E.M.W. (Vic.).

#### High Dose of Barbiturates

R  
Cap. Tuinal 3 gr.  
mitte 25.  
Sig. 2 nocte.

As Martindale (p. 259) states of Tuinal . . . "Dosage and uses similar to those for Seconal Sodium," we felt obliged to follow this.

The maximum dose of Quinalbarbitone Sodium is given in the B.P. as 3 gr. On contacting the prescriber we were asked to supply as written. We endorsed both the prescription and the prescription book: "Dose confirmed by phone."

It is a fact that manufacturers' standard dose forms are not usually as high as the maximum official doses. It is also probable that the mixture of barbiturates in "Tuinal" may have a higher maximum dose than Martindale suggests. But, as stated above, we felt that such an authority could not be ignored. (Each capsule of "Tuinal" 3 gr. contains: Seconal Sodium 1½ gr. and Amytal Sodium 1½ gr.)

—E.G.D. (Vic.).

# Impressions of Pharmacy in the United States of America

by

Phillida McCallum, F.P.S. (Vic.)



The opportunity to visit the United States of America is a privilege which comes rarely to us in Australia, and for that reason I was deeply appreciative of those who made my journey possible. During my brief stay I determined to learn as much as possible of America and her people.

The warm friendliness of those with whom I came in contact, in all walks of life, made my sojourn a very pleasant one, and assisted greatly in my project. In particular I wish to express my appreciation of the members of the staff of the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, to Dean Leuellen of the College of Pharmacy, Columbia University and to all those who were kind enough to answer my numerous questions. In the associations made there is a very real link between professional pharmacy here and in the United States.

As my first contact with the American way of life occurred at Honolulu, a tourist paradise, I had a little leisure in which to observe customs and people during my six hour stopover. I had been told of the "drug store" type of pharmacy, but except for the very modern design of building and interior lay-out, displaying souvenirs and gifts to capture the tourist trade, I did not find the shops to be of the "soda-fountain" variety. The dispensing area within the stores appeared very small and carried a large stock of prescription specialties.

In San Francisco there were three different types of "drug store"; the large "corner drug store" with a vast display of variable merchandise, including, at times, wines and spirits; the average "drug store" where, although cosmetics and camera supplies were sold, they adhered fairly closely to goods of pharmaceutical application; the "prescriptions only" shop where there were no goods displayed in the windows, and only a discreet number of medicinal products shown in the counter and wall cases.

As I progressed from West to East of the States, I found that the three types of stores were still repre-

sented, but that their distribution varied in different areas. There were, generally speaking, more pharmacies of the type familiar to us here in Australia, a notable difference being the reduced size of the dispensing area. In the newer housing settlement areas the design of the pharmacies was very modern, with an accent on window treatment, and I was shown illustrations of the latest trend—a "drive-in" establishment which had been built in one of the Middle Western States.

To be able to appreciate the conditions found in retail pharmacy it is necessary to know something of merchandising generally. In relation to the buying and selling of goods, I understand that the United States has developed merchandising to a degree not found anywhere else in the world. The considered opinion of international travellers in business enterprises whom I was fortunate to meet were that the methods used in manufacturing and distribution could not be applied in any other country. The reasons given were that no other country has the combination of natural resources, wealth, and a large population to consume her goods.

In this vast shopping area the individual is, to a degree, submerged. The shopkeeper, as we know him, is represented as a small part of a large marketing system. There are butchers, bakers, vegetable vendors and grocers, but they are being replaced by the counters in the supermarkets. The individual business is rarely seen except as a part of a chain organisation. Only in the rural districts and in some of the smaller communities does the individual hold sway, and as the markets move out, so does he, or be absorbed into them.

As one must realise, this trend has had its effect on the practice of the pharmacy. Impulse buying is the order of the day and store space must allow for adequate displays of merchandise from which clients are free to select. The salesman, therefore, acts as a cashier and clerk and is seldom required to promote a sale. The intensive radio, television, newspaper and magazine advertising means that the client usually knows what

he wants when he walks into a store. There is no restriction on the number of pharmacies which may operate in any one area and there are often a great many competing with one another in a relatively small radius. The owner of a pharmacy does not have to be a licensed pharmacist, but the law requires that the operation of a drug business must be under the control of a person having a licence to do so. Hence, in matters outside the limits of his licence, the operator would take his instruction regarding the conduct of the business from the owner. This could mean price-cutting or special advertising to attract passing trade.

Another factor which has tended to change the conduct of pharmacies is the reduction in the amount of compounding required. In some pharmacies which I visited there was virtually no compounding done at all. Stock lines were bought ready packed and labelled and there were few prescriptions requiring compounded

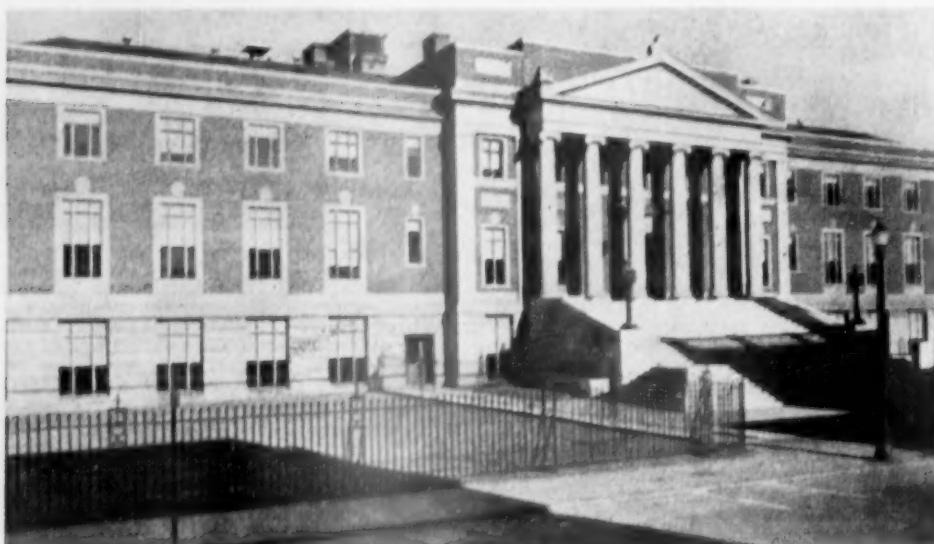
demonstrations. The student doctors themselves do not take part in the laboratory work.

Although there is an enormous number of prescriptions circulated annually, there are about four times the number of pharmacies in existence as can make a good living from the dispensing side of the business alone.

From this background, as I see it, there have been the following developments:

(1) The tendency to turn to the merchandising side of the business to help the profit margin, hence the drug store.

(2) The tendency for large groups to form for the purpose of packing, buying and marketing at the lowest possible cost, hence the chain drug store organisations which cut out the wholesaler or "jobber."



Massachusetts College of Pharmacy

items. In one dispensary, during a period of two and a half hours, thirty prescriptions were treated. All were for prescription specialities and only two needed anything but relabelling. The two in question were for tablets in quantities other than the number supplied in the original packs.

It would seem, therefore, that the type of prescriber in different areas determines the conduct of the dispensary to a great extent. In the training of a physician today he has little or no experience of compounding or compounded items. The pharmacy departments in the training hospitals are more like manufacturing departments and the laboratory atmosphere bears little relation to the dispensary of a drug store. The student doctor is invited to visit the research units of the large manufacturing houses and is doubtless impressed by the well equipped laboratories. After graduation the physician is deluged with literature from these drug firms and tends to rely on the representatives from the various companies to instruct him on new treatments. In most states there is no attempt made to demonstrate to the physician during their training the compounding of prescription material. In those states where this is done the instruction takes the form of laboratory de-

(2) The development of other business enterprises outside the scope of pharmaceutical practice, hence the corner drug store where sales of liquor, jewellery, stationery and confectionery or the establishment of a snack bar, coffee shop or small restaurant would attract the passerby.

(3) A complete swing in the opposite direction in the development of the "prescription only" business. Here the owners would usually be a group of licensed pharmacists who worked successfully with a panel of doctors. In these pharmacies laboratory work would be undertaken embracing biochemical tests and there would also be considerable manufacturing of parenteral solutions.

In order to understand something of the nature of the substance prescribed, the teaching of students in pharmacy has become very much more specialised in recent years. Professional pharmacy in the United States is at a high level and it is of interest to learn of its development.

The first establishment to be registered as a College of Pharmacy was opened in 1821, and was at Philadelphia, but it was not until 1900 that an attempt was

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made to standardise pharmacy education. The American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties was formed at that time and over the years has had much to offer in the way of practical suggestions for training programmes. After the establishment of the completion of high school or college graduation as a pre-requisite entrance standard for pharmacy, professional teachers were introduced into pharmacy colleges with outstanding success. There was some hesitation prior to this move as it was felt that the practical viewpoint would be lost. Such was not the case and a satisfactory balance between the two phases of training was achieved. In 1944 the conference recommended a four-year training course and suggested in 1950 a five-year programme. From 1960 all States will change to the five-year plan, with the exception of California, where, for some time, there has been a six-year course involving four years of academic training and two years' practical experience.

In comparison with conditions in Victoria, I would say that the entrance standard would be approximately equivalent to our Leaving Certificate. The student of pharmacy in the United States proceeds in a more leisurely fashion with his studies and has the advantage that he may devote all his time to his academic course. A student may, after enrolment as a freshman in an accredited college, apply to the appropriate State Board of Pharmacy for an apprenticeship licence. There are a few exceptions to this custom when a student would first be granted his licence and would then seek enrolment. Few women enrol in pharmacy, and they are usually placed in hospital pharmacies.

After satisfactory completion of a training programme the prospective pharmacist may present himself to the State Board of Pharmacy once more and sit for the licensing examination of a practicing pharmacist. This involves written examination in Chemistry, Materia Medica, Pharmacy and Calculations, each of three hours' duration, an oral examination in Forensic Pharmacy and a dispensing test where approximately five prescriptions would be compounded.

The subjects covered during the training courses embrace a wide field, and in addition to general subjects such as Chemistry, Physics, Maths, cover Botany, Biology, Pharmacognosy, Pharmacology, Bacteriology, Biochemistry, Microbiology, First Aid, Public Health, Pharmacy Jurisprudence, Business Law, Drug Store Management, and special subjects such as Philosophy, Public Speaking, Professional Pharmacy, Statistics, Drug Extraction, Manufacturing, Sterilisation. The accent is on practical laboratory work right throughout the courses and in the last two years of the programmes there is more time spent in the laboratories than in the lecture rooms. The subject pharmacy includes Latin and Calculations and is taught in all years of the courses, culminating in the laboratory programme, Dispensing in the fourth year. During the fourth year the students select those subjects which will be most helpful to them in the particular branch of pharmacy in which they have chosen to find employment.

From the conditions discussed it is apparent that the increase in the number of subjects taught has become necessary because of the complex material now handled by pharmacists. It is desirable that a dispenser should be familiar with the chemistry and pharmacology of the prescription specialties which are constantly being revised and added to by the manufacturing houses. At the same time the horizon has been widened and there are many more avenues open to the qualified pharmacist than there were a few years ago.

Because of the reduced amount of compounding in the majority of drug stores, many feel that an apprenticeship involving more than twelve months is not necessary.

New York has reduced the practical requirement to six months. Apprenticeship is not concurrent, but those students who wish to make arrangements to fulfil the practical requirement during the long vacations may do so. The State Board of Pharmacy inspects and supervises establishments employing apprentices. Those wishing to employ an apprentice would notify the Board and also give their names to the various training colleges in the vicinity.

The policing of the various laws affecting pharmacy is the task of the State Board of Pharmacy and the members are responsible for the satisfactory conduct of this function. Many of the laws originally instituted in the States have been replaced by Federal legislation such as the Narcotics Act and the Food, Drug and Cosmetics Act. Where there is a difference in interpretation of State and Federal laws, the latter is presumed to prevail.

The Boards of Pharmacy have no control over the training colleges in any way. Most institutions are maintained by private funds and such endowments as they have been fortunate to receive. It was interesting to observe that past students who had become successful in their careers would still remember the college which trained them, and make practical tokens of remembrance which were much appreciated. Those departments which exist as part of a university would, naturally, function as a part of the general programme and would teach only those subjects of special pharmaceutical application. Their funds would be supplemented where absolutely necessary, but many of them are far from well-to-do.

The emphasis placed on the establishment of libraries impressed me considerably. Even the most humble college had a well-stocked library where the students had access to periodicals, text books, reference books, and even light reading matter for their leisure hours. All staff members and students were taught that the use of the library was a privilege and very few attempted to abuse that privilege, so I was told.

In general it appeared that over the years training programmes had been under constant revision to meet the changes taking place in the practice of pharmacy, and that educationalists had been faced with problems which required much time and planning to solve. That they have solved their problems there can be no doubt, and it is equally certain that the future will hold more. The introduction of radio-active material into medical practice, research into plant products are only a few of the important stages of development taking place. More and more material is coming into the province of the pharmacist and although he has moved away from the former art of compounding into a different realm, the same principles are still as necessary for him today as they were for the apothecary of a century ago. In addition he has the view before him of a much wider scope whereby new concepts of the professional standing of the pharmacist in the community may well be formed.

## ACCIDENTS TO CHILDREN

A round-table conference on accidents to children was held in the Section of Child Health. Among the 13 questions was: Are the drug firms aware of the dangers of attractive pills which resemble sweets?

All the panel felt very strongly on this point. Dr. Simpson produced and distributed samples of sweets indistinguishable from pills and pills from sweets. He thought it little short of scandalous that such a state was possible. Manufacturers should put up pills in paper cellophane packing or in "kiddiproof" tins.

To this Dr. Bouchier added that nowadays when every home was like a chemist's shop the medicines should be kept locked away and inaccessible to children.—"The Pharmaceutical Journal."



# Radioactive Isotopes

*A review of  
recent applications*

by F. H. Burton, Ph.C.

Radioactive Isotopes are already in use in medical treatment and will grow in importance. Pharmaceutical chemists, therefore, will be required to have knowledge of their methods of storage, handling, etc. In some countries courses of instruction have already been established in pharmacy teaching institutions.

In two Australian States legislation relating to the control of these substances has been introduced without making any provision for the utilisation of the skill and experience of pharmaceutical chemists. This is an aspect which should engage the attention of all pharmaceutical organisations.

It is becoming increasingly rare to glance through a scientific journal without finding some new application of, or some reference to radio-isotopes.

Although the writer's understanding of radiochemistry and radioactive isotopes is at present of very limited range, and he must approach the subject as an as yet unfamiliar branch of pharmaceutical science, a not inconsiderable amount of overseas scientific literature passes through his hands. It was therefore thought that a résumé of current usages and developments in this field might help re-orientate our approach and prepare the ground for some newcomers to the 1958 edition of the British Pharmacopoeia. Four proposed additions to the Pharmacopoeia are—

Sodium Radio-Iodide (131I) Injection.

Sodium Radio-Iodide (131I) Solution.

Sodium Radio-Phosphate (32P) Injection.

Sodium Radio-Phosphate (32P) Solution.

(Sodium Radio-Iodide is already official in the U.S.P.)

As it is still two years to the publication date of the next B.P., it seems not unlikely that this small list will be augmented.

Amongst those radio-isotopes which have been used for diagnosis and therapy in medicine and/or for biological and medical research as tracers are Sodium 24, Iron 55 and 59, Iodine 127 and 131, Strontium 89 and 90, Cobalt 60, Phosphorus 32, Iridium 192, Caesium 137, Gold 198, Bismuth 206, Carbon 14, Zinc 65.

## Characteristics

Generalisations about radio-isotopes are both difficult and dangerous, but broadly speaking they possess the following important characteristics:

1. Radio-active isotopes emit radiations of three types: Alpha, Beta and Gamma emissions, and generally fall into one of two classes: (a) predominantly alpha emitters, (b) beta and/or gamma emitters.

Alpha-rays are capable of penetration of the order of 10 microns.

Beta-rays (in isotopes used in medicine) have a range in tissue of approximately 3 millimetres.

Gamma-rays are capable of penetrating the whole body.

(The range in air of all these types of radiation is very considerably greater than in tissue.)

2. The half-life of radio-isotopes vary between very wide limits (e.g. Sodium 24 has a half-life of about 15 hours, Iodine 131 eight days, Cobalt 60 about five years, and Carbon 14 5360 years). This factor is important, particularly in therapy. Radio Sodium (24) with its half-life of about 15 hours only, although a fairly strong emitter, is, in suitable dilution, safe to use in diagnosis. A radio isotope with a long half-life and a similar strength of emission could not be used since it would remain as a source of radiation in the body for too long a period. It will be seen therefore that radio-isotopes used in therapy for ingestion or injection are necessarily short-lived isotopes.

**3. Radio-isotopes and compounds "labelled" with isotopes** can be detected and located (in extremely low concentrations) by Geiger-Muller counter or scintillometer in any system into which they may be introduced. Upon this characteristic the whole structure of tracer technology has been built.

The activity of radio-isotopes is expressed as millicuries or microcuries, subdivisions of the unit measurement, the curie. The curie is equivalent to  $3.7 \times 10^{10}$  disintegrations per second. The millicurie is one-thousandth part of a curie ( $3.7 \times 10^7$  disintegrations/sec.). The microcurie is one-millionth part of a curie (37,000 disintegrations/sec.).

### Applications in Medicine

#### Iodine (131I)

The following summary from the "American Professional Pharmacist" relates to a radio-chemical already official in the U.S.P.

##### "U.S.P. Name. Sodium Radio-Iodide (131) Solution. Available Forms.

Diagnostic Vials, 10 cc. 25 microcuries/cc.  
Therapeutic Vials 10, 20 and 30 cc. 5-15, 15-40 and  
40-100 millicuries respectively.

##### "Trade Name and Manufacturer.

Diagnostic Solution Sodium Radio Iodide (131)  
(Abbott).

Therapeutic Solution Sodium Radio Iodide (131)  
(Abbott).

**Indications.** Diagnostic studies in suspected thyroid disease, treatment of thyrotoxicosis and carcinoma of the thyroid; to induce hypothyroidism in thyroid patients with angina pectoris.

**Dosage.** Oral or intravenous, 1 to 100 microcuries (tracer).

**Remarks.** Contra-indicated in pregnancy. Side effects may include mild febrile reaction, slight decrease in blood leukocytes, local radiation effects, such as soreness and swelling in the neck and hypothyroidism."

The knowledge that iodine administered accumulates in the thyroid gland is put to advantage in the use of Iodine 131. As a diagnostic tool it is used for functional test of the thyroid gland. Possibly the most successful therapeutic application of this radio-isotope is in the treatment of hyperthyroidism. Since the emitted radiations of Iodine 131 have a range of about 3 mm. in tissue, their damaging effect is confined to the gland. Calculated dosage and the short half-life (eight days) of the isotope limit the amount of cell damage to that necessary to slow down the gland's abnormal activity.

This lowering of the basal metabolism has proved useful in cases of angina pectoris associated with an overactive thyroid. A report in "Nouveautés Médicales" (June, 1956) states that radio-active Iodine has been successfully used in dyspnoea and chronic respiratory inadequacy not responsive to accepted methods of treatment.

#### Sodium Radiophosphate (32P).

Rapidly growing neoplastic tissue selectively takes up phosphorus. Radio-phosphorus has been used to control leukaemia, usually when X-ray irradiation has failed or when the patient suffers from radiation sickness when treated by conventional means. A recent technique has been devised whereby intra-ocular tumours are identified by means of Phosphorus 32 using a special type of Geiger counter.

It is also administered to patients for the location of deep-seated tumours prior to surgery. Such tumours absorb many times more phosphorus than normal brain tissue, and the isotope accumulates in the tumour. A fine probe carrying a special Geiger counter is inserted after trephining and precise location and definition of the limits of the tumour is thus possible. A number of successful operations employing this technique are reported to have been performed.

#### Radio Sodium (24Na)

An example of the employment of this isotope as a diagnostic tool is provided by its employment to determine the rate of blood flow where impaired circulation is suspected. This is a simple but ingenious application. A small volume of sodium chloride solution "labelled" with Na24 is injected into the forearm, and a Geiger-Muller counter is placed in contact with one of the feet. In a normal subject the G-M counter records the presence of radio-activity in the foot in a very short time. It increases rapidly and reaches its maximum value quickly. If the circulation is restricted the rate of increase in impulses on the G-M counter is slow. By moving the counter to different parts of the body the point of restriction can be located. Modifications of this method exist. The injection may be made at the foot and the counter located in the groin. Or the injection may be made into a vein in the left hand and the counter held in the right. This latter technique has been used by Russian workers to determine the rates of blood flow in patients suffering from various complaints (e.g. epilepsy, disseminated sclerosis, encephalitis, rheumocarditis) for possible use in diagnosis.

Tracer doses have recently been employed for the assessment of placental efficiency. Radio-sodium is intravenously injected during the latter weeks of pregnancy, and "its rate of accumulation within the foetus is observed with a collimated scintillometer placed over the centre of the anterior aspect of the pregnant uterus." "Intra-uterine deaths from insidious injury to the placenta during the latter weeks of pregnancy will be lessened by more accurate assessment of placental efficiency." "The method has proved completely reliable as a means of diagnosing foetal death in the cases studied so far, a positive result being obtained as soon as the infant dies and long before confirmatory radiological evidence is possible." (Lancet, 15/9/56.)

#### Radio Strontium (Sr 90)

In the treatment of small lesions and benign tumours on sensitive mucous surfaces this isotope has proved useful. Radio-Strontium is a "soft" beta-emitter and is used by means of a shielded hand applicator which can be brought close to the tissue to be treated.

#### Radio Cobalt (Co 60)

Cobalt 60 is finding wide application as an alternative to radium as an external radiation source. It has the advantage of cheapness and can be machined or moulded into any desired shape. An interesting development for deep therapy is a device whereby wafers of radio-cobalt can be so arranged that the radiations converge on a deep-seated tumour. In this way the cancerous tissue receives a damaging dose of radiation, but the intervening tissue does not.

**Radio Caesium (137).** which is more plentiful than Cobalt 60 and has a much longer half-life, has been suggested as a preferable source of radiation. However, the separation of Caesium 137 from other fission products still presents difficulties.

**Radio Gold (198)** is reported as having a delaying effect in cancer of the lung and abdomen. It has also been used in intractable cases of prostatic cancer.

In France radio arsenic has been of use in the treatment of superficial lesions such as those of fungoid mycosis or Hodgkin's disease.

#### Boron 10

A technique developed at Brookhaven Laboratory, U.S.A., depends on the selective affinity of boron for malignant brain tumours. After injection of soluble boron (a solution of borax is used intravenously) the patient is exposed to a stream of slow neutrons from a nuclear reactor. The effect of this exposure is to split the boron atom into two sources of intense short range radiations. (These are alpha-particles with a range in tissue of 10 microns. The treatment is thus very selective.) Improvement is reported in 70-80 per cent. of patients so treated.

#### Radioactive Tracers

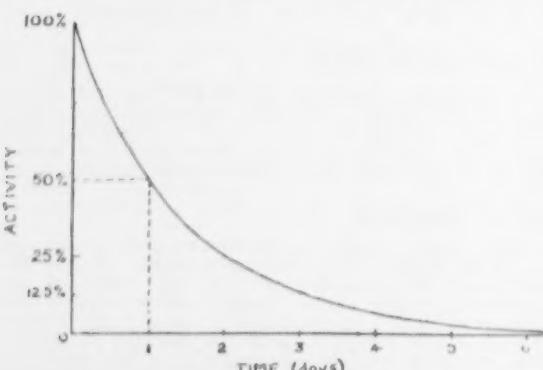
The great virtue of radio-isotopes as research tools lies in the fact that they can be detected in extremely low concentrations. Dean (Report on the Atom) points out that 0.00001 gramme of Carbon 14 "can be accurately measured when spread through the tissues of 20,000 guinea pigs."

Detection is done by means of a Geiger-Muller counter (the end window type appears to be widely used), by scintillometer or by autoradiography. In the latter process the distribution of radioactive substances is determined by placing the material to be examined in contact with X-ray film, then exposing and developing in the normal manner. Evans (Tracer Technology in Pharmacognosy) points out that where micro-sections are photographed in this way for subsequent examination under a microscope, the grain-size of the film emulsion assumes great importance.

#### Tracers in Medical Research

Some recent applications of radio-isotopes in medical research are given below.

**Radio Iron.** is being used by Dr. Jeannette Schultz of California University (who was recently awarded a \$5000 bursary by the Giannini Foundation for this research) to establish the amount of iron absorbed in the



Decay curve illustrating disintegration of a radionuclide having a half-life of one day. (It will be seen that, theoretically, the activity never reaches zero, but after 12 days the amount of residual radio-activity is only about 1/4000 of the initial activity.)

child's diet and to determine whether this should be supplemented in the same way as it is supplemented with vitamins. Preliminary research involved the feeding of radio-iron to chickens and cows, and its

subsequent tracing in eggs and milk. Radio-iron is also added to the diet in cereals.

Experiments in animals with Iron 55 show the rate at which red cells are produced in the bone-marrow. This research is being undertaken since it may open up new approaches in the treatment of anaemia. A revelation incidental to this is that muscle tissue requires a greater amount of iron than was previously supposed.

**Radio-Zinc (65)** has demonstrated that the white blood cells of leukaemia patients are deficient in this element. Such knowledge may assist in understanding why over-production of leucocytes occurs in this disease.

**Radio-active Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>.** Halsted, Lewis and Gasster (Am. J. Med. 20:42 (1956)) concluded that the study of the absorption of radioactive Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> supports the theory that abnormal bacterial growth in the small intestine may cause impaired utilisation of Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>. Administration of Aureomycin results in a markedly increased absorption of B<sub>12</sub>.

**Radio-Sodium (Na 24)** has been used in many studies of salt utilisation and diffusion. "Tagged" sodium chloride injected into one arm is detectable by G-M counter in the other arm in about 75 seconds.

#### Tracers in Biology and Pharmacognosy

Iodine (131), Carbon (14), Bismuth (206) and Phosphorus (32) are among the more interesting radio-isotopes used as tracers in pharmacognosy and biology. So much research has been done in these fields that only a short general picture can be attempted here.

**Bismuth (206)** both as radio-bismuth nitrate and radio-bismuth camphocarbonate has been employed to determine the distribution of bismuth in the tissues. It is anticipated that the findings will have applications in pharmacology, physiology and pathology. Reports in "Il Farmaco" (March and June, 1956) summarise the behaviour and distribution of bismuth in the blood, liver and spleen.

**Iodine (131).** John E. Christian, recipient of the eighth Chilean Iodine Educational Bureau award, in "Radioactive Iodine in Pharmaceutical Science" (J. A. Ph. A., July, 1956) reports interesting applications of this radio-isotope. Some of these are:

The measurement of the rate of absorption of iodide ion from differing types of sublingual tablet base.

An extensive study of the relative skin absorption of iodide ion from about 40 different types of ointment base.

A similar application indicating the absorption rate from five types of suppository base.

Radioactive tracer analysis, permitting the analysis of very minute quantities of iodine.

**Phosphorus (32).** Radio-phosphorus has been employed in the study of complex phospholipids and nucleic acids present in blood plasma and red cells. This radio-isotope is also at present being employed by the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy at the Arnold Arboretum in experimental work connected with the dwarfing of fruit trees. Radio-phosphorus is fed into the tips of branches of apple and pear trees from which a portion of the bark is removed low down on the stock. The trees remain small, but the fruit is normal in size and the trees very prolific. G-M counters show that almost all the phosphorus remains located in that portion of the tree above the point where the bark has been removed.

**Carbon (14).** By far the most extensively used radio-isotope in biological tracer research is Carbon 14. This

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## Frozol Ice

is understandable when one considers that practically all the compounds synthesised by plants and animals contain a carbon atom.

Available compounds "labelled" with radio-carbon run into many hundreds. By selecting suitable chemical processes for the preparation of organic compounds it has been possible to make available "labelled" compounds with the "tagged" carbon atom in a particular group. For example three "labelled" forms of acetic acid have been prepared. One with C14 in the methyl group, one with C14 "labelling" the carboxyl group, and a third with both methyl and carboxyl groups "labelled."

The application of tracer technology to pharmacognosy is twofold. It attempts to discover the biogenetic origin of the active constituents of plants, and it produces drugs (glycosides, alkaloids, etc.) possessing radioactive characteristics for subsequent use in pharmacological investigation.

The general procedure for the production of radioactive drugs of biosynthetic origin is to grow the plants in an atmosphere of carbon dioxide "labelled" with radioactive carbon. This gives a random labelling of all the carbon-containing organic constituents. By this method and by modifications or refinements of it, radioactive digitoxin, nicotine, colchicine, veratrum alkaloids, morphine, hyosciamine and radio-active ergot are among the drugs which have been prepared. Radioactive antibiotics have been prepared by adding C14-labelled glucose to the growing medium. (More detailed references may be found in "Tracer Technology in Pharmacognosy" (Evans), "Export Review," July, 1956.)

"Il Farmaco" (July, 1956) reports that Pfizer Research Institute has, after two years research, succeeded in introducing radio-carbon into the complicated structure of Terramycin. Detailed experimental work is proceeding, and new avenues of approach, which could furnish the answer to many unsolved problems, are being explored. Theories on the mode of action of antibiotics are numerous, but an effective demonstration of them has not been reached.

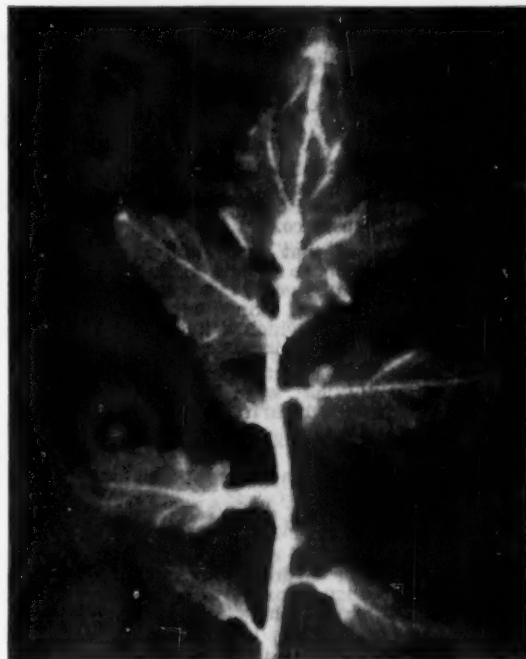
#### Range of Labelled Compounds Available

The extensive range of available labelled compounds may be assessed from the following details:

The Radiochemical Centre, Amersham, England, includes in its list a wide range of alcohols, acids and their derivatives, amino-acids, ring-labelled compounds, urea, acetone, carbohydrates produced by biosynthesis, cholesterol, cholestenone and recently (August, 1956) advertised Testosterone-4-C<sup>14</sup> and Progesterone-4-C<sup>14</sup> as being in the course of preparation. During 1955 some 12,000 consignments of isotopes were despatched from the Radiochemical Centre, about half going abroad to 40 different countries.

Messrs. Abbotts in U.S.A. have had several of their products accepted by the United States Pharmacopoeia, and in June, 1956, were reported to have marketed, for medical use, 64 isotopic products. They have thus taken the lead in the U.S.A. in the production of radio-isotopes for medical use.

Coursaget (Proc. Int. Conf. Geneva 1955) reports that the French Atomic Energy Commissariat has prepared and supplied radio-isotope labelled compounds including the following: Sodium acetate (C14 methyl), sodium acetate (C14 carboxyl), indolacetic acid (C14), d-l glutamic acid (l-2 C14), aminosalicylic acid (C14 carboxyl), nicotinic acid hydrazide (C14), glycine (C14 carboxyl), pyruvic acid (C14 carboxyl), cystine (S35), arginine (N15), di-iodofluorescein (I131), iodized albumins and globulins (I131) and cupric complexes of amino acids (Cu69).



Reversed autoradiograph of leaves of tomato plant. Light areas indicate uptake of radio-phosphorus. (P. R. Stout and D. R. Hoagland). "Sourcebook on Atomic Energy."

#### Handling and Handling Equipment

Bradley (Radio-isotopes in Pharmaceutical Practice) in the "Public Pharmacist" of July, 1956, gives a concise survey of the techniques involved in dispensing radio-isotopes. The following are some of the observations he makes.

For very weak solutions used medicinally, ordinary Pyrex glass flasks are considered suitable protection against beta-rays for a limited period of exposure. (e.g. Sodium Radio-phosphate solution can be safely stored and transported in Pyrex glass vessels, sealed by fusing the glass.)

Tracer doses of gamma rays are screened for short periods (below 30 minutes) by Pyrex glass. Longer periods require increased screening, and an additional lead outer carrier is used for this purpose.

The technique evolved by Mr. Bradley at the Glasgow Western District Hospital is calculated to reduce the overall time for handling to less than 30 minutes, a desideratum in aseptic operations.

An alternative method is the use of a lead screen for protection from radiation during the dispensing of isotopes. This article also deals with the decontamination of apparatus, rejected ampoules, etc., and is eminently practical in its approach.

Remote handling equipment now available includes "Niptongs," available in 1, 2, 3 and 4 foot lengths and working on the "squeeze to release" principle. Savage and Parsons have marketed tongs with which it is possible to open the outer container and remove the inner isotope container by remote handling. A small shielded cabinet in which radio-isotopes may be handled is also available.

### The Legal Position in Australia

Most States in Australia have either passed Acts or have Bills before Parliament controlling the possession and use of radio-isotopes.

The necessity for a clause permitting possession by pharmacists has clearly not entered into the minds of those responsible for the drafting of the various Bills.

It seems quite possible then, that unless some amendments are introduced, we shall be faced in 1958 with the anomalous position of being prohibited by law from handling a B.P. substance.

It may be argued that the retail pharmacist will never be called upon to handle radio-isotopes. This is probably true. But what of the hospital pharmacist? The use of radio-isotopes cannot but expand, and the number of hospitals in which a knowledge of isotope handling is required will increase.

Many, in fact most, country hospitals could not support a full time physicist, even if the supply of physicists were adequate, which it is not.

In any case, it is the right and responsibility of the pharmacist to dispense a B.P. substance, and any set of circumstances depriving him of this right should not be allowed to arise.

### Lucas Heights Reactor

The nuclear research reactor and laboratories at Lucas Heights, near Sydney, has made considerable progress, and erection is expected to be completed by June, 1957. The area of the site is 160 acres.

The reactor (10,000 Kw) is being housed, and will operate within a cylindrical steel shell 70 ft. high and approximately 70 ft. in diameter. The reactor core, the components of which have been made in England and Germany, is being erected by Head Wrightson Processes Ltd.

The Australian Atomic Energy Commission has established an isotopes section which maintains an advisory service. A bibliography service is also being organised. All isotope supplies in Australia are at present obtained from overseas, thus short lived isotopes which are in wide use abroad, but decay quite rapidly, are not available here. When the A.A.E.C. reactor is operating it is anticipated that all of these isotopes will be available for use.

This review has touched very briefly on what appear to the writer to be among the more interesting developments in a rapidly expanding field. More detailed references will be found in the sources listed below, to which due acknowledgment is here made.

- American Professional Pharmacist, June, July, 1956.  
Australian Journal of Science, October, 1956.  
Chemical & Engineering News, June 25, 1956.  
Chemistry & Industry, July, 1956.  
Export Review (Tracer Technology in Pharmacognosy, W. C. Evans), July, 1956.  
*Il Farmaco*, March, June, July, 1956.  
Journal American Pharmaceutical Association (Radioactive Iodine in Pharmaceutical Science, J. E. Christian), July, 1956.  
*Lancet*, September 15, 1956.  
McCallum, Mrs. P., Vict. Coll. Pharm.—personal communication, November, 1956.  
*Nature*, August 4, 18, 1956.  
Nouveautés Médicales, June, 1956.  
Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, Vol. X (Proc. Int. Conf. Geneva, 1955).  
Pharmaceutical Journal of Great Britain, June 2, 1956.  
Produits Pharmaceutiques, June, 1956.  
Public Pharmacist (Radio-isotopes in Pharmaceutical Practice, T. Bradley), July, 1956.  
Radioactive Isotopes, Whitehouse and Putman.  
Report on the Atom, G. Dean.  
Source Book on Atomic Energy, S. Glasstone.

### WHAT IS A PROFESSION?

Several years ago Justice Brandeis clearly defined a profession: "The peculiar character of a profession as distinguished from other occupations, I take to be these: First: A profession is an occupation for which the necessary preliminary training is intellectual in character, involving knowledge and to some extent learning, as distinguished from mere skill. Second: It is an occupation which is pursued largely for others and not merely for one's self. Third: It is an occupation in which the amount of financial return is not the accepted measure of success." It is also obvious and not objectionable that through public demand it has been necessary not to limit pharmacy's activities exclusively to professional service in order to make health service conveniently available.—Extract from "Southern Pharmaceutical" (July, 1956).

### USE OF TRANQUILLISERS IN THE U.S.A.

A warning against the over-liberal use of tranquillisers has been issued by the American Psychiatric Association. A statement by the Association's committee on research, therapy and public information describes the possible value of tranquillisers in the treatment of inpatients and outpatients, and goes on: "Psychiatrists are at the same time concerned about the apparently widespread use of the drugs by the public for the relief of common anxiety, emotional upsets, nervousness and the routine tensions of everyday living. It is reported that 35,000,000 prescriptions for the drugs will be written in 1956, and a market research firm states that 3 of 10 compounds prescribed most frequently by physicians in 1955 were tranquillisers. Numerous articles in the public prints may be pointed to as evidence that the drugs are widely viewed as medicines for the relief of everyday tensions.

"Casual use of the drugs in this manner is medically unsound and constitutes a public danger. The tranquillising drugs have not been in use long enough to determine the full range, duration and medical significance of their side effects. Use of these drugs is no more to be encouraged than use of any other drug, except where proper medical diagnosis determines that a drug is indicated to maintain the life and functioning of a person. The prescribing of the drugs for emotional illnesses carries with it an obligation for continuing appraisal and supervision by physicians fully aware of the psychiatric symptoms involved and the potentials of their course of development, alteration or remission.

". . . it is important to be aware of subtle pressures that combine to foster public misunderstanding and misuse of the drugs. There is the eagerness of the public, and of physicians themselves for 'good news' about a new treatment for psychiatric disorders. This tends to foster popular stories based on optimistic reports of early and limited research findings with the drugs, before such findings can be reproduced and validated by other colleagues. There is normal competition among pharmaceutical houses to refine, promote, and sell their own particular products. This competition should not involve physicians in public relations enterprises directed towards the premature announcement of 'successful use' of particular products.

"Persons engaged in any form of research or evaluation of therapy should be most dispassionate and objective in their pronouncements. It is suggested that members of the Association be particularly alert to personal pressures (both internal and external) and circumspect in their announcements of early experimental results with the drugs."—*"Lancet,"* 4/8/56.

# Pharmacy in Czechoslovakia

specially written for  
"The Australasian  
Journal of Pharmacy"

by

Vladimir Smecka, M.Ph.

Masaryk University, Brno.

## Education

Becoming a pharmacist requires in Czechoslovakia a high level of education. Both of the two Czechoslovak Faculties of Pharmacy, belonging to the Masaryk University of Brno and to the Komensky University of Bratislava respectively, demand a secondary school leaving certificate for admission. In addition to it, the student who aspires to a career in pharmacy must attain an acceptable grade in the Pharmacy Aptitude Test, because only a certain number of students is admitted each year.

To obtain a diploma the students have to prove their aptitude over a period of five years of intensive study, i.e., the same period of time as has to be spent at a university by a prospective lawyer, technician, dentist, etc.

The five-year course of study is divided into ten terms, the first four of which are devoted predominantly to courses in natural sciences, e.g., in physics, mathematics, biology, anatomy, botany, chemistry, inorganic, organic and analytical, etc. In the remaining terms the students become acquainted especially with pure pharmaceutical subjects, such as **pharmaceutical chemistry**, **galenical pharmacy**, **pharmacognosy**, **pharmacology** and **pharmaceutical practice**. These courses are extensive and a great importance is attached to them. The general survey of the pharmaceutical scientific sphere is completed by a course dealing with the **History of Pharmacy**.

**Practical professional training** is organised in retail pharmacies approved of by the Faculty of Pharmacy. The prospective pharmacists spend an essential part of their eighth and ninth terms in these pharmacies. During this practical training the students apply—under a direct supervision of the university staff—their scientific and technical knowledge in compounding and dispensing prescriptions for patients.



The prescription department of a typical Czechoslovakian pharmacy.

Students are obliged to undergo, in addition to their work in a retail pharmacy, a one-month practical training in a hospital pharmacy, in the District Control Laboratories, in the District Galenical Laboratories (see below), or in a pharmaceutical plant, according to their own choice. This practical training has to be taken during the summer vacations preceding the last year of study.

Before finishing their study at the faculty the candidates are required to present a thesis dealing with a problem chosen from the sphere of some of the above-mentioned purely pharmaceutical subjects. These theses are for the most part based on laboratory work, and they have to prove the ability of candidates to tackle the given problem by means of the most recent scientific methods and in the light of present-day knowledge.

To obtain a University diploma the candidate has to pass a Final State Examination. This examination covers the main pharmaceutical subjects, and in addition to it the student has to defend his/her thesis.

After a successful conclusion of the Final State examination, the candidate receives a University diploma and is awarded the degree "Graduated Pharmacist" (in Czech = *promovany farmaceut*). Until the year 1954 the graduates had been awarded the degree of Magister pharmaciae. This degree entitles a newly graduated pharmacist to practise his profession. After three years of professional work in a public or in a hospital pharmacy, the graduate may qualify for the post of a head-pharmacist (manager) of a pharmacy.

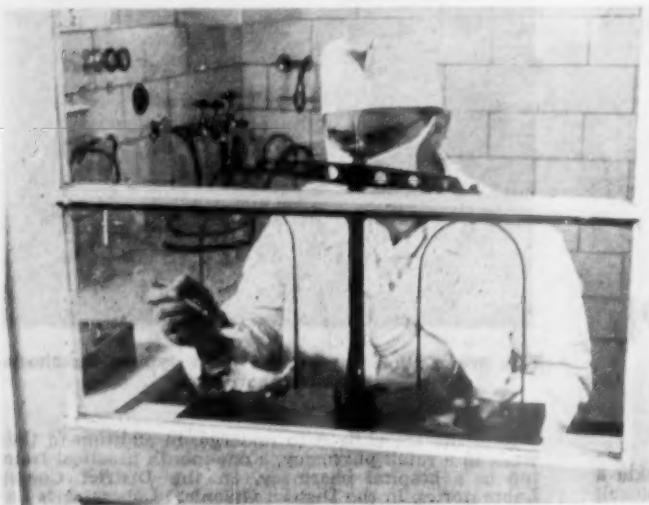
There exists a wide sphere of opportunities for pharmacists in Czechoslovakia. Besides in their main working field, i.e., in retail pharmacy, the graduates can find employment especially in hospitals, in pharmaceutical industry, in research laboratories, in pharmaceutical education, in governmental or district administration, etc.

By way of conclusion it is worth noting that the pharmaceutical profession in Czechoslovakia is occupied by a relatively high number of women.

#### Pharmaceutical Practice

The pharmacies in Czechoslovakia are not privately owned. They all—without exception—belong to the National enterprise MEDIKA, and are controlled by the Government.

Nearly every Czechoslovak citizen is a member of the National Health Insurance Scheme. This means that every member enjoys free medical care and is entitled to obtain medicaments without charge. This fact, of course, significantly influences the work in the pharmacies. While in the past the pharmacies were organised on a commercial basis, being first of all a



The pharmacist weighs a drug in sterile chamber of a hospital pharmacy in Czechoslovakia.

source of income for the proprietors, there is a strong tendency today to establish the pharmacies as an essential part of the National Health Service, and emphasis is laid on their purely medical function.

In connection with this endeavour the pharmacies at present are undergoing important changes, which are reflected not only in the system and organisation of their work, but also in their fitting and equipment.

The majority of Czechoslovak pharmacies look like the one in the illustration. Entering a pharmacy, one comes into a room which usually is fitted with a counter and shelves, in which pharmaceutical ready-made medicaments are located. In this room the pharmacist receives the prescriptions, hands over ready-made preparations and sells remedies obtainable without a medical prescription. Non-professional items are not sold here, not even such articles as, for example, toothpastes or cosmetics.

The prescriptions are made up mostly in a separate prescription department, out of the customers' sight, in order to enable the pharmacist to do his responsible job undisturbed.

In this or similar manner nearly all our pharmacies, especially those in large cities, operate.

Besides the prescription department, there are many other rooms in an average pharmacy, of which especially the galenical laboratory is of importance. The hospital pharmacies are fitted by all equipment necessary for preparation of sterile parenteral solutions (see photos).

Every pharmacy is supervised by an experienced

pharmacist. All professional work is done by graduated pharmacists only. They are aided by assistants—mostly women—who have finished their studies at a special secondary school devoted to the training of auxiliary pharmaceutical personnel.

According to the recent statistical survey<sup>1</sup>, approximately 75% of all prescriptions are ready-made medicaments, mostly of Czechoslovak origin. Preparations manufactured by the Czechoslovakian pharmaceutical industry are of good quality and many of them are exported abroad.

The remainder of prescriptions (25%) represents compounded medicaments, the majority of them being solutions, powders and ointments.

**District Laboratories.**—In order to rationalise pharmaceutical work to a high degree, District Galenical Laboratories have been established. These laboratories prepare galenical products in large quantities—which has proved to be highly economical, and distribute them to the pharmacies in their district. Moreover, there are District Control Laboratories in each district. These laboratories have an important task to prove the identity and purity of all chemical and vegetable drugs delivered to pharmacies from wholesale stocks. In addition to it, from time to time the District Control Laboratory tests compounded medicaments taken at random from various pharmacies in the district. In this way the pharmacists of the District Control Laboratories check up the quality of compounded medicaments, which must always agree with the requirements of the Czechoslovak Pharmacopoeia.

#### The Czechoslovak Pharmacopoeia (Second Edition)

The first edition of the Czechoslovak Pharmacopoeia (*Pharmacopoeia Bohemoslovaca*) was issued in 1947, followed by a supplement five years later. Now, the second edition of the Pharmacopoeia has been published, and it came into operation on December 1, 1955. The book contains 1182 pages, and it consists of three main sections, namely: general notices, monographs and appendices.

The previous edition of *PhBs II* employed fundamental analytical methods, taking into account that only simple apparatus was at the disposal of the pharmacies. On the contrary, by introducing new analytical methods involving more complicated and expensive instruments, the new Pharmacopoeia is now suited for much more widespread use in all branches of pharmaceutical practice. From a pharmacopoeial standpoint the most notable novelty of *PhBs II* is doubtless the polarographic analysis which has been elaborated for *PhBs* by the inventor, Prof Heyrovsky himself, and his collaborators. It is to be pointed out that the Czechoslovak Pharmacopoeia is also the first one to make use of this remarkable new method of analysis.

*PhBs II* contains 654 monographs, including those of general descriptive nature. Contrary to the somewhat complicated arrangement used, for example, in BP 1953 or in USP XIV, the monographs are arranged in the alphabetical order of their Latin titles.

The following table indicates the relative number of chemicals, vegetable drugs, galenical preparations and biological products in *PhBs II*.

Vegetable drugs	Approx. 18.5%
Galenicals	Approx. 26.5%
Chemicals	Approx. 52.0%
Biological products	Approx. 3.0%

The table shows an unmistakable shift towards chemicals at the expense of galenicals and vegetable drugs.

1. M. Preecchtel, V. Smecka, J. Solich: Farmacia 24, 105 (1955).

2. V. Smecka: The Pharm Journ., 175, 510 (1955).



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# Contemporary Figures in Pharmacy

## No. 5 — Mr. LORIS INGAMELLS

BY KEITH ATTIWILL

When Greek meets Greek, you may expect a good "scrap." In the refined ranks of pharmacy, the term must be accepted metaphorically; and it serves to introduce a redoubtable pharmacist who has not been afraid to "scrap" with equally formidable pharmacists (opponents only in the "political" sense) before large assemblages of their colleagues. It is of Loris Ingamells, of Waverley (N.S.W.), an original member of the Federal Council and foundation President of the New South Wales branch of the Guild that I write this month.

Greek met Greek in Sydney in 1947. Loris Ingamells was the spokesman for a dissident group of New South Wales Guild members who waged a sort of commando warfare against the Federal Council negotiating committee on the Chifley "free" medicine terms. Alan Fraser, one of the soundest and most experienced men in the Guild, was a member of the negotiating committee. To him fell the unenviable task of leading the "other side" when the "opposition" precipitated several special meetings of the Guild to discuss the Chifley Government's pharmaceutical benefits scheme. The dissident ones were known as the Macnamara group (from Mr. F. J. Macnamara, of West Wyalong, N.S.W.) and in the group was the able and hard-hitting Loris

Ingamells. He was implacably opposed to the scheme which the Federal Council of the Guild, after years of negotiating, had recommended to Guild members.

How Ingamells scoured the Federal Council! How the Macnamara group bombarded Alan Fraser! And with what dignity did Loris Ingamells, after a tense general meeting in Science House, when the crowd was so large that the overflow was packed round the walls, accept the vote against him. It came after a masterly justification by Alan Fraser of the actions of the Federal Council. Defeated, but with philosophic acceptance of the weight of numbers, Loris Ingamells walked down from the dais.

When I asked him to become the subject of one of these pen portraits of contemporary leaders of Pharmacy, he replied in a characteristic manner by writing an autobiographical sketch. All who know Loris will enjoy his opening paragraph:

"My voice was first raised (probably in protest) at the hour of high noon on May 24, 1892, in the Melbourne suburb of Hawthorn, where my parents happened to be at the time."

Not a bad beginning for one of the most difficult of all things to write—an autobiography. Over to you, Loris! "My parents," he writes, "were New Australians, both being born in England. On the paternal side, the family comes from the Norfolk area, and the prefix 'Ing' denotes that they probably came over with the Danes."

Loris Ingamells's father served his apprenticeship in St. Paul's Churchyard, with the softgoods firm of Hitchcock, Williams & Co., and so was entitled to rank as a freeman of the City of London. Loris's mother was born in Plymouth, her parents having emigrated from Russia about the middle of the last century.

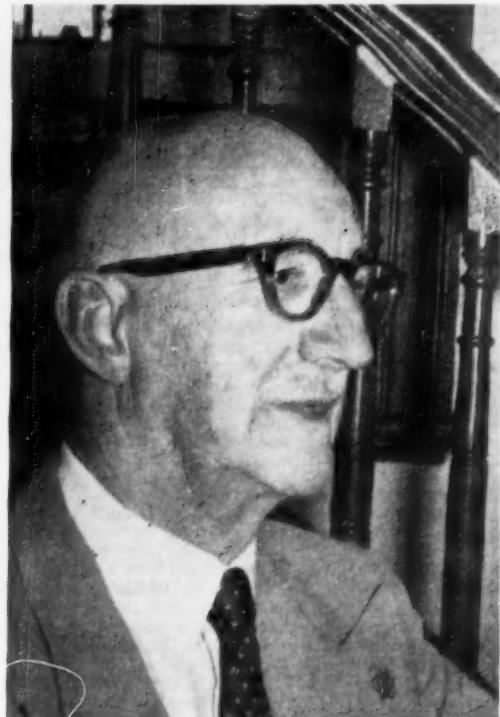
When he was about two years old, the family moved to St. Kilda, a Melbourne suburb, and one of his earliest memories is of accompanying his father each morning down to St. Kilda baths at the chilly hour of dawn.

### Wynyard Square was Residential

In 1899 the Ingamells family moved to Sydney. It was decided that young Loris should spend a year at Ballarat, V., with an uncle. Joshua Ingamells was headmaster of a public school—Loris thinks it was Pleasant street—and, being of the same hardy persuasion as his father, put Loris under a cold shower every morning, whether it was snowing or not.

For the Christmas holidays of 1900, Loris went to Sydney, which at that time was suffering an epidemic of bubonic plague. "I promptly fell sick," Loris recalls, "but with typhoid, spent some six weeks in hospital, and never returned to Ballarat. We lived in Wynyard Square, which in those days was almost entirely residential, and I attended Fort street school at its original site, at the southern end of the Sydney Harbour bridge."

About 1905, his progress "came to a sudden stop," he says, because of eyestrain and an enforced year's rest from book work. That year he spent as a boarder at a little country school near Windsor (N.S.W.), but



Mr. Loris Ingamells

did practically no school work. He says that the time was far from wasted: the Head, an old North of Ireland man, was "an inveterate golfer," and he introduced Loris to the game.

At the end of the year, Loris Ingamells sat for and passed the Pharmacy Board's entrance examination. Then, after a rather long search, he became apprenticed to the late J. C. Hallam at his original pharmacy at 52 College street, Sydney:

"In the middle of 1907, my four years apprenticeship began at the age of 15, with some misgivings on Mr. Hallam's part. He considered I was too young and too small to see over a counter! But he took me on trial, with the promise of four years if satisfied, wages to be 2/6, 5/-, 7/6 and 10/- a week.

"John Clifford Hallam was one of nature's gentlemen, in every sense of the term. Not nearly so stern as he looked, he had a keen sense of humour that saved me many a time. During the whole of my association with him, which lasted some eight years, I never knew him to do an unjust or an unkind action.

"I found the staff to consist of three assistants, and the same number of apprentices. The manager was the late W. J. Archer, later Registrar of the Board and Secretary of the Society and the Guild.

#### "Nothing But Dispensing"

The pharmacy was run on the old lines. "Carboys in the windows," Loris recalls, "and inside nothing but dispensing. We kept no cosmetics or patents. It was only much later that he allowed us to stock tooth brushes and pastes; but once the ice was broken, we gradually sneaked in some better class patents (now we would call them ethicals), but we were never permitted to recommend them or do any prescribing on our own!

"We made our own galenicals. Ointments, creams, tinctures and infusions. We had water boiling all day long for Inf. Buchu or Inf. Rosae Acid. I still remember the lemon drinks we had when Inf. Gent. Co. was needed. We even had a still in the cellar for our Aq. Dist. The six of us worked Mondays to Thursdays till 6 p.m. on two days, 8 p.m. on alternate days, 9 p.m. on Fridays, and all day Saturday. And we dispensed without end, and I mean dispensed. Even tablets were a rarity. And pills! My record for one day was 1160, in batches of 24, 50 or 100. All varnished and some even silver-coated. Capsules—mostly a sandalwood oil compound—I made by the thousand, and smelt like it.

"This was before Wentworth avenue was built, and in Liverpool street, facing the park, was Lyons terrace, housing a large percentage of the leaders of the medical profession. Indeed, with College street, practically all the city's doctors were in our area, before Macquarie street became the Harley street of Sydney. Names like Sir Herbert Maitland, Hamilton Marshall, J. C. Windeyer, McMurray, Worrall, Thring, A. J. Brady, and Jamieson, come to mind, among many others of similar calibre. And did we have to treat them with reverence! Every month the accounts were posted to each of them, and there was always great competition on their part to be the first to pay. Different nowadays!

"At the end of my trial period, the chief signed me on and doubled the amount of pay agreed upon. It was my job to open the pharmacy at 8 a.m. to get the cleaning staff started, index the scrap book, and so on. For the first few months, I did little else but copy scripts, write labels in a very schoolboy hand, and pass out the finished medicines, mostly at a price of 2/6.

"After this period I went into the dispensary. Ap-

parently I got on well enough, for toward the end of my second year I was passed fit to take a turn at Sunday duty, and after one trial with the boss (sitting in his office in case of emergency) I was given every fourth Sunday to do 'on my own.'

"We were not bothered in those days by snooping inspectors, but everybody did very well without them. Sunday mornings were pretty hectic, and were not made any easier by one of J.C.H.'s pet charities—the soup kitchen. We had yards of tickets, to be issued to all applicants for a bowl of soup at the kitchen—and the methos and deadbeats queued up all down College street. And we had strict instructions to treat each and everyone with all courtesy.

#### Fraternal Spirit was Poor

"There was very little fraternalising between chemists. No golf or bowls, but I fancy an occasional game of cricket. As a rule, a pharmacist would be keenly interested in the other side of the street when approaching another member of the profession in the street!

"Among Mr. Hallam's friends and visitors were Messrs. H. C. Price and W. Perry (both former apprentices), the Loneyes, and Mr. Dixon of Slopers Pharmacy in Oxford street.

"After completing my period at the University (we crammed the lot into one year) I passed the Final in 1911 at the age of 19, and remained at College street as an assistant.

"Although I was not yet registered, Mr. Hallam paid me full adult wages for the next two years. Three pounds a week seems silly today, but then you could have the best suit of clothes in Sydney made to order for one week's work. Not so today. Another example of Mr. Hallam's generous dealings was his habit of giving all members of the staff a bonus as a Christmas present. In my first year he gave me £20, which was very big money to a boy. The senior members of the staff benefited in proportional amounts."

#### Enlistment in First A.I.F.

Loris Ingamells was obviously happy at Hallam's in College street. Then came World War I. "I stayed with Mr. Hallam until my enlistment in the A.I.F. in 1915," he says. "For a long time my eyesight kept me out of the Army—I was silly enough to want to join the Infantry—but finally a friendly medico persuaded me to join the Army Medical Corps.

"After a stay in Egypt, I was sent back to Sydney to join the new Sea Transport Service. Two quick trips to England and back, by way of the Cape, followed, and then I returned to the Middle East and joined the 2nd Light Horse Field Ambulance. After the Armistice, we did six months of police duty in Egypt during the rebellion. Then I went to England, where I served for six months with Allen & Hanburys at Bethnal Green, returning to Australia in 1919."

Back in Sydney, Ingamells was appointed Chief Dispenser at Sydney Hospital, and stayed four years. In 1924, Elliott Brothers suggested that he should go into business for himself, and with their assistance he did so at Petersham. In 1929, he transferred to his present pharmacy in Waverley. "In this connection," says Loris Ingamells, "I would like to pay tribute to the very fair and generous attitude of Elliotts toward me. Later on, as President of the Guild, I had to investigate several complaints by chemists who claimed harsh treatment by the firm, but I never found a single instance where E.B.'s were anything but charitable and long-suffering.

"In 1930 I did my best day's work in my life when

I married the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Noble, herself a pharmacist, who has been my mainstay ever since.

"Acting on the assumption that one only gets out of life—or work—what one puts into it, I joined the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales in 1921, and served as President from 1925 to 1927. In that year we decided to do something about the ideas that William Davies was contributing to *The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy* under the name of "Methane," and a meeting was held in St. James' Hall to form the Guild in New South Wales. I have the honour of having been the first member and founding President of the New South Wales Branch.

"Then the first Federal Council met in the Society's rooms in the Domain, and we started in to draft a Constitution. A. W. McGibbony was elected President and C. L. Butchers Federal Secretary. Others round the table were Bob Park (Q.), Vesey Fitzgerald (Tas.), E. F. Lipsham (S.A.) and Hugh Howling from the west, with W. J. Archer acting as offside to C.L.B.

#### Guild Launched in N.S.W.

"I remained as President until after the amalgamation with the Master Pharmacists' Association; and with the invaluable help of Messrs. McGibbony and Butchers the Guild got well on its way, steadily growing year by year.

"I sometimes feel that it has grown too large; that its ramifications have extended so much that its leaders are immersed in detail, to the detriment of the Guild in the wider sense. This is, perhaps, inevitable, but I see danger in the growth of what is rapidly becoming a pharmaceutical civil service."

In 1933 Mr. Ingamells resigned from the Presidency of the Guild to become President of the Board, and acted in that capacity till 1935.

Today, although he is an honorary member of the Guild State Branch Committee in New South Wales, his only official pharmaceutical activity is as a member of the New South Wales local board of Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd., which he says "is unobtrusively one of the most valuable wheels in the pharmaceutical machine, as many pharmacists have discovered in the hour of need."

In his autobiographical notes, he concludes, "I was infected at an early age with the golf virus, and I am still an addict—perhaps 'sufferer' would be more correct medically, but not actually, as I enjoy every shot, good or bad. I was a member of Moore Park Golf Club for about 10 years, and was captain of the club and led the 'A' team during the later periods of my membership. I am still an honorary member.

"But most of my golf during the last 25 years has been played at Australian, which is the oldest club in Australia and—I think—the best. To my mind, sport of one kind or another is a 'must' for pharmacists. Both the playing of a game and the social relaxation gained in congenial company give one a very necessary break from the worries and details associated with one's work. This especially applies to a mid-week break, and I would go so far as to say that any pharmacist who does not take at least a half-day off in the week is looking for trouble."

Next Month: Mr. J. H. Gould.

DO YOU  
KNOW  
THAT  
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CAN  
GET  
WATER  
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OF  
A  
SPONGE  
BY  
SIMPLY  
PUTTING  
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INTO  
WATER?  
IT'S  
TRUE.  
IT'S  
BECAUSE  
SALYRGAN  
CONTAINS  
MERSALYL  
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THEOPHYLLINE  
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**Salyrgan**  
BRAND OF MERSALYL WITH THEOPHYLLINE  
★ A Pharmaceutical Benefit (N.H.S.)

Salyrgan is extensively employed for the treatment of cardiac and cardiorenal oedema, dropsy of nephrosis and ascites of hepatic cirrhosis. The diuretic response does not "wear out", so that in most cases administration may be repeated as required for years, without loss of efficiency.

• Ampoules, 1 ml.  
Boxes of 5, 25 and 100.

• Ampoules, 2 ml.  
Boxes of 6, 25 and 100.

**Bayer Pharma Pty. Ltd.**



56 YOUNG STREET, SYDNEY

DISTRIBUTORS: Salmond & Spraggon (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.,  
Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth.

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# Historical Glimpses of Pharmacy in Australia

## The Foundation Years

No. 5: A Pioneer of the West

BY KEITH ATTILLW

Although the pharmaceutical chemists of Sydney and Melbourne had long been fighting successfully to establish their calling upon a professional basis, the nineteenth century had passed its half-way mark before the first Pharmaceutical Society was formed—in Victoria. (This is the oldest society in Australia, having been established in 1857, nineteen years before the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.)

The daring spirits were not afraid to pursue their calling in the remote areas of the great Australian continent. We have already recalled early days in Tasmania; this month we glance briefly at a fragmentary picture of early Western Australia.

Touching upon a few historical points, we recall that the colony of Western Australia was founded in 1829, because of fear of possible French annexation of that part of the continent. A military outpost was established at King George's Sound in 1827, and two years later a settlement on the Swan River was begun, under the command of Captain James Stirling, R.N.

### Half-Hearted Venture

It was only a half-hearted venture on the part of the British Government—a mere £20,000 had been supplied by the British Government for its treasury. The handful of pioneers were ill-prepared for the conditions that awaited them. A too liberal distribution of land in the beginning necessitated later settlers having to go far out into the inhospitable bush.

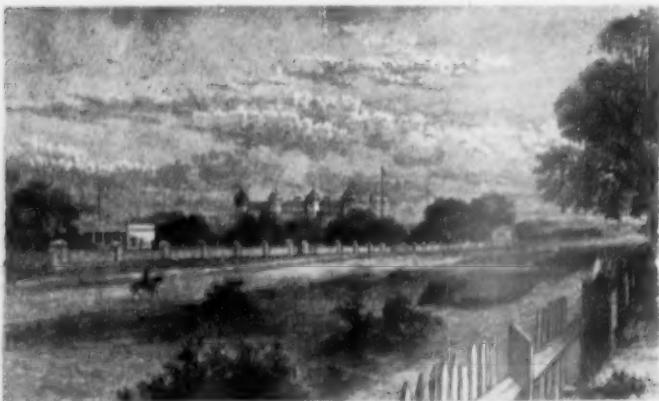
The growth of the colony was very slow, and 20 years after its foundation numbered fewer than 5000 people.

One can imagine the difficult, hard, primitive life of these early pioneers. Among this hardy band were Western Australia's earliest pharmacists, who only nine years after Stirling landed at Swan River were able to demonstrate that they were an integral part of the new colony.

From the *Perth Gazette and West Australian Journal* of 1838 we get a glimpse of one of these early Western Australian chemists, Mr. G. Shenton. His pharmacy was at the corner of Hay and William streets, Perth, where the Economic Stores are today, and he practised in that shop from 1838 to 1849.

In the May 5, 1838, issue of the *Journal* he inserted an advertisement which read as follows:—

"G. Shenton begs to inform the inhabitants of the



Government House, Perth, Western Australia.

Colony that he has on sale an assortment of drugs of superior quality; and that all orders will meet with immediate attention.

"Physicians' Prescriptions and Family Recipes carefully prepared.

"Also, Sheep and Cattle Medicines from approved Recipes."

What a picture that advertisement conjures up! A young colony where a standard of drugs was yet unknown. The hardy pioneers who had come out from England to make their life in this young colony, having somewhere in their trunks copies of the old family herbal recipes which had served them well over their lifetime. And Mr. Shenton was entirely aware that his customers would bring in those carefully preserved scraps of paper to have made up.

### No Veterinary Surgeons

There were no veterinary surgeons in those days. The chemist would be the obvious choice of the farmer in stress who depended on the health of his stock to help him carve out his future in the struggling colony. His sheep and cattle had been carried arduously to the colony in sailing ships which had taken long months to traverse the hazardous 10,000 miles from England's green pastures. When he arrived with those animals that had survived the journey, they were vital to his existence—and the chemist in the colony could assist him to keep them healthy.

Mr. Shenton apparently prospered in his profession, for we read later in that year that he had removed "to more capacious and convenient premises" which he had taken over from a Mr. W. N. Clarke.

The Perth Library archives now has the custody of Mr. Shenton's prescription book. It began on September 1, 1826. Apparently he had brought his prescription book out with him to the colony and continued to use it in Perth when he opened his pharmacy there in 1839.

Mr. Shenton had been articled to a firm of druggists in Portsea, England, and in an article he wrote to the *Perth Gazette and West Australian Journal* regarding an accident which had occurred, owing to insufficient knowledge on the part of a seller of drugs, he stated:

"The very proper observations in your Paper on the subject of dispensing medicines have inspired me, in justice to myself, to acquaint the Public, through the same medium, that I have been regularly articled, and acquired my knowledge of the Drug Business in one of the first establishments at Portsea. In corroboration I enclose my Indentures for your perusal.

"Allow me to observe that when the knowledge of a seller of drugs, etc., is limited to the label on the bottle (which may perchance be detached by damp), it cannot be wondered at, should accidents of the nature you have mentioned frequently occur; but such would not be the case with a duly qualified person."

Mr. Shenton was beginning to construe the policy upon which in later years were drafted the laws relating to the practice of pharmacy in the various States. The traditional thoroughness and the innate sense of the value of accuracy is so characteristic of the profession that it is not surprising to find the pattern surviving through generations.

Next Month: Foundation of the Victorian Society.

A completely new oral dosage principle

# Dexedrine Spansule \*

sustained uniform release capsules

*release medication over a prolonged span of time*



Each capsule contains a large number of very small specially coated pellets of the drug, which release their contents by degrees so that the desired therapeutic level is sustained evenly for 10 to 12 hours.

In the treatment of overweight 'Spansule' capsules of 'Dexedrine' control the appetite between meals as well as at meal times: an important advantage over tablet medication.

*Available in two strengths (10 mg. and 15 mg.) in containers of 30*

**TRADE PRICE:** (According to strength) 132/- and 158/- per doz. containers.  
**RETAIL PRICE:** 16/6 and 19/9 each container.

AN  PRODUCT

Literature on request from  
Menley & James (Australia) Ltd. (Incorporated in England)  
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for Smith Kline & French

\*Pat. No. 164,298

SUDT166

# HOWARDS OF ILFORD

CALCIUM GLUCONATE      CALCIUM LAEVULINATE  
ROCHELLE SALTS      QUININE  
BROMIDES      CITRATES

ESTABLISHED 1797  
*Fine Chemicals of standard purity made under strictest analytical control*

Even in standard lines like these, there is a special 'know-how' in the selection of raw materials, in the processing of products and in the storing and packing of the finished article. The experience Howards have gathered during 150 years in the trade is entirely at the service of their customers.



FERROUS GLUCONATE · HEAVY MAGNESIAS · IODIDES · IRON SALTS · LACTATES · POTASSIUM ACETATE  
SALICYLATES · SODIUM ACETATE · SORBITOL · TABLETS · ZINC SULPHATE

HOWARDS OF ILFORD LIMITED · ILFORD · NEAR LONDON

# Small Shops and Big Claims

## Traders Who Use the Loud Pedal

By Thomas H. Lewis, M.B.E.

Editor, "The Business Encyclopaedia"; Past President, British Sales Promotion Association.

Much has been written about the trader who is so modest about his goods or services that he does not knowingly advertise. I use the word "knowingly" because **every** trader advertises. The fact of putting his name on the fascia-board of his shop is proof of this assertion; his printed letterheads and invoices are advertisements; his paper bags and containers are a form of publicity; his window-cards are in themselves mediums for "making known."

Every trader, I repeat, advertises in some form or other, whether or not he believes in principle in advertising as a means of advancing his business interests. So much for the trader who "does not advertise."

### He Does Not Stop at the Truth

There is, on the other hand, the man who is so keen on advertising himself that he does not stop at the truth, but draws on his imagination to invest either himself or his goods with superlative qualities. "The best — in the world," "We defy competition," "The finest that money can buy" . . . these are amongst the blatant notices one sees in shop windows and in advertisements, and one is left wondering whether "the Lord is on the side of the big battalions" when two advertisers in one district make the same glorified claims for their respective goods!

I am prompted to write on this subject by an advertisement which I saw recently displayed in a railway compartment. I was so struck by its wording that I copied it very carefully so that I should not myself be guilty of an exaggeration in writing about people who over-state their claims. I realise that to do so would weaken my case, as it does that of every trader who "draws the long bow."

Referring to my notes, I find that the advertiser claims for himself that he is: "The only known practical tailor for gent's best-class work." Now, such a claim as this is obviously absurd, and one wonders how the advertisement managed to pass the censorship of the railway publicity department. It is not only untrue, but it is defamatory in character, as is many another exaggerated claim one sees in the daily round. In order to gain their own ends, misguided folk of this kidney are quite prepared to stigmatise other traders by implication as being of inferior calibre to themselves, either personally or in respect of the goods they sell.

### Where Some Manufacturers Go Wrong

Retail traders are not alone in this regard, for exaggerated claims are made by some of the most important manufacturers in the country. As witness, next time you are in a retail chemist's, just pay a little attention to the showcards you see around you. If the pharmacist is lavish in displaying these, you will probably be amused to note that three or four laxatives made by different concerns are "the best," that umpteen face creams make the same claim, and, if the fates be propitious, you may light upon a specific made up by the trader himself which is modestly described as being better than all the rest!

Amid such a welter of counter-claims one can be forgiven for discounting the qualities of anything seen in that particular shop, and for going to an establish-

ment where superlatives cease from troubling and the rivals are at rest!

### The Big Advertisers Are Not Blatant

I have just given myself the trouble of going through the advertisement columns of one of the "big" London daily newspapers, and have examined each display with a critical eye. And I find that the larger the space taken—and in this respect, there are several big displays by departmental stores—the more restrained seems to be the claim made for the goods advertised.

There are exceptions, of course, as where, for example, an advertiser of furniture and pianos on the out-of-income system is on a "mug-catching" expedition, but the general rule appears to be in the direction I have indicated.

### When the "Small" Man "Blows Himself Out"

The "small" trader may think to himself: "Well, I can't afford to take a big space, so I must 'blow myself out' in order to be taken any notice of at all." This is quite a human point of view; indeed, psychologists tell us that, as a rule, people who are small in stature are more consequential and self-assertive than their taller fellow creatures. Be this as it may, the world in general has no use for bombast and "swank," whether it be by word of mouth or by action, and I contend that the "small" man in business can make himself felt without resorting to the doubtful expedient of investing his goods with qualities which they do not possess.

He may, in his heart of hearts, consider his wares the "best in the world," "the finest in the country," "the most up-to-date in the town," and if no other trader is likely to think along the same lines, he would probably gain by such assertions, provided they were honestly made. But most shopkeepers hold these views regarding their own wares, so the superlative claim is best left severely alone.

### Poor Policy to Use Superlatives

In his book, "Selling by Mail," Mr. V. E. Pratt tells his readers that in writing about any article to be sold it is extremely important that no claim be made which cannot be substantiated. The experienced seller limits himself to simple statements of fact, and says nothing which may tend to strain the prospective customer's credulity. He continues:

"It is usually poor policy to use superlatives in an endeavour to stimulate interest. Literature which is filled with 'best' and 'finest' or 'greatest' and 'most wonderful' fails to produce the desired effect. Similarly, it is a mistake to describe every article as a bargain. The purchaser will hesitate to believe that every item offered for sale is superior to all other items.

### Sweeping Claims Reduced to a Minimum

"The leading catalogue houses ordinarily avoid the use of superlatives. The words 'biggest,' 'finest,' 'best,' 'strongest' or 'heaviest' are reduced to a minimum of usage. This custom was adopted several years ago after a period of competition on the part of catalogue writers to outdo one another in the use of such words. The danger of over-selling must be guarded against constantly."

Professor L. D. Herrold, of Washington University, is equally emphatic in "Advertising for the Retailer." I will quote:

"The man who is preparing the advertising must be continually on the look-out to see that exaggerations do not creep into his advertisements or showcards. On no account should he say 'Reduced to —' unless the price has been actually cut. Never should it be said that an article is 'special value' unless it really is. Value is always a relative term, and what to the buyer may seem 'special value' to the customer may be only 'ordinary value.' . . . What would be 'actual value' in one part of the country, because of excessive freight rates or other conditions peculiar to the locality, might seem an exorbitant price in other parts more convenient to sources of supply."

#### Pledges Made by Big-Store Principals

When I commenced this article I certainly did not intend it to develop into a symposium of other writers' views on the subject now before us, but the foregoing quotations are so aptly phrased that I feel that they will add point to my remarks. Now let me quote from the "pledges" made by a number of prominent retailers as the result of a movement launched some years ago by the Associated Advertising Clubs of the World.

We pledge ourselves to a just respect and consideration for competitors . . . to refrain from the use of unqualified statements. Such phrases as "Greatest Sale in —," "Biggest Bargains in City," "Unmatchable Value" are to be avoided.

We pledge ourselves to avoid "never before," "elsewhere" and similar terms which cannot be proved . . . to avoid the use of the term "made to sell at —" inasmuch as it lends itself to abuse and misrepresentation.

We pledge ourselves to avoid the use of illustrations which mislead regarding size, quality or appearance of merchandise advertised . . . to govern advertising and shop signs, window cards, etc., with the same strict supervision that we have pledged ourselves to apply to newspapers and other forms of advertising.

We pledge ourselves to the use of "special reductions," "specially priced," and similar terms, only when merchandise is being offered at a price less than the regular or prevailing price in our store . . . to use such terms as "sample," "clearance," "special purchase," "marked down," "reduced," etc., only when expressing exact facts . . . We pledge ourselves to discourage the use of trade names that are of themselves misleading.

#### Honest Appeal Pays the Biggest Dividends

The folk who formulated and pledged themselves to these and other high standards of selling were not actuated merely by altruistic motives. They were hard-headed and prosperous people engaged in the Great Game of Selling, and they had learnt in the school of experience that honesty in advertising pays the biggest dividends in the end.

Words are tools, we are told, and upon how we use these tools of trade will greatly depend the ultimate business structure we shall fashion for ourselves. One may liken an exaggerated claim for one's goods to the elaborate handle of an inferior tool. Immediately customer-resistance is experienced, the edge of the tool is turned, and it is not long before the tool finds its way to the scrap-heap—where it rightly belongs—in spite of its pretty handle.

The trader need not be self-effacing—he would be a fool to himself if he were—but to change our metaphor, the loud-mouthed braggart in selling is setting himself a pace which he will find, before the race is well begun, is far too warm to keep up. Let him save his breath for sensible and truthful utterances, and not waste it in gushes of "hot air."

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## CAUSES OF LUNG CANCER

Since the initial scare over the relationship between cigarette smoking and lung cancer, much statistical evidence has been put forward which gives a more balanced picture of the situation. Whilst it still seems certain that those who smoke large numbers of cigarettes over a period of years run a definitely greater risk of contracting the disease, there are also other factors which appear to be of considerable importance.

In a recent paper, which provides much interesting information, are the results of a survey of two groups of people dwelling in rural and urban districts respectively, with regard to their smoking habits and the amount of exposure that they suffered to air-borne carcinogens. In these two regions a careful survey has been made since 1952 of all patients suffering from or having died from malignant disease. Not only were hospital records carefully investigated, but personal histories were obtained from near relatives regarding the patients' habits and environment going back over a period of twenty years.

During a period of two years some 10,000 deaths were attributed to malignant disease and an environmental history was obtained for ninety per cent. of them. Later a number of air filters were installed at different points in both districts and an estimate made of the atmospheric pollution as regards smoke, trace elements, 3:4-benzpyrine and other polycyclic hydrocarbons. Monthly measurements were also made of the amount of sulphur dioxides present in the air.

These investigations were undertaken in order to compare the death rates from lung cancer over a two-year period amongst men from the forty-five to seventy-five years who had resided in the two areas who had been either smokers or non-smokers, the smokers being classified as pipe smokers, and light, medium and heavy cigarette smokers. One reason for this investigation was the opinion held by some that lung cancer was more prevalent in city dwellers than in country dwellers, a fact that suggested an atmospheric factor being either contributory to or preventing lung cancer.

The preliminary findings show that the rural death rate is proportional to the number of cigarettes smoked per week, and pipe smokers, as a group, ranked with those who smoked about twenty-five cigarettes a week. In every category of smoker the urban death rate exceeded the rural rate, but the urban/rural ratio which was 9 to 1 amongst non-smokers fell progressively with the number of cigarettes consumed until it almost approached unity amongst heavy smokers.

The presence of this urban excess in each group of smokers suggests some factor peculiar to cities which is superimposed on the cigarette factor and which is absent in rural areas. All the air constituents examined were present in greater amounts according to the degree of urbanisation, the amount of 3:4-benzpyrine being 8 to 11 times greater in the city than in the rural areas. It is particularly interesting to note that this figure corresponds to the estimated ratio of the mortality amongst non-smokers in the two areas.

The summary to the report states that when death rates are compared with the calculated total intake, by different categories of smokers in the area, of benzpyrine derived from air plus that derived from the number of cigarettes smoked, the degree of correspondence is such as to suggest that benzpyrine might be the one agent involved. There seems little doubt that there is some environmental factor or factors in cities that does not pertain in the country.—"The Retail Chemist," March, 1956.

# RASTINON®

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# Wandering Herbalists of the Fourteenth to Seventeenth Centuries

## PART I

By Frank A. King

The herbalist was the forerunner of the modern pharmacist.

The most popular of all the wayfaring hawkers who roamed throughout the British Isles during the fourteenth century were, naturally, the cheerfulness, or those who appeared to be the most beneficent. Both qualifications were to be found in those wanderers who claimed to have a universal panacea, and they were extremely numerous in the Middle Ages. They went about selling good health to be obtained by means of pills, potions or herbs, and they traded upon the credulity of the sick, the infirm and the hypochondriacs who could always spare a coin or two to obtain something which could relieve their real or imaginary ailments.

On holidays, such as fair-days, these herbalists established themselves on the village-green or at recognised trading centres on market-days. The hawker spread a carpet or piece of cloth upon the ground and on this he displayed his drugs, and immediately began to harangue the villagers in the rural centre or the citizens in the market town.

These wayfarers adopted the same type of "sales talk" to be heard even nowadays in country districts when cheapjacks seek to sell strange potations to credulous members of the general public.

Big words, marvellous stories, praise of their own noble origins, enumeration of the extraordinary cures they had effected, ostentatious display of an unbounded devotion to the public good, and of entire financial disinterestedness—they sought to help the sick and not to gain reward!

In the thirteenth century the herbalist boasted about himself and boosted his wares and his successors continued with the same methods for more than four centuries.

The sales-talk of a herbalist ("Diz de l'erberie") included in the thirteenth century "*Oeuvres completes de Rutebeuf*" (Jubinal's edition, 1874, vol. II, p. 58), provides the advertising "puffs" and manufacturing details of some seven hundred years ago:

"My friends, I am not one of those poor preachers, nor one of those poor herbalists who stand in front of the churches with their miserable ill-sown cloaks, who carry bags and boxes and spread out a carpet. Know that I am not one of these; but I belong to a lady who is named Madame Trote of Salerno, who makes a kerchief of her ears, and whose eyebrows hang down as silver chains behind her shoulders: know you that she is the wisest lady in all the four quarters of the world."

"My lady sends us into different lands and countries, into Apulia, into Calabria . . . into Burgundy, into the forest of Ardennes to kill wild beasts in order to extract good ointments from them to give medicine to those who are ill in body . . ."

"And because she made me swear by the saints when I parted from her, I will teach you the proper cure for worms, if you will listen. Will you listen?"

(Shades of "Send no money—Complete coupon for booklet.")

"Take off your caps, give ear, look at my herbs which my lady sends into this land and country; and because

she wishes as well to the poor as to the rich, she told me that I should make pennyworths of them for a man may have a penny in his purse who has not five pounds; and she told me and commanded that I might take pence of the current coin in the country wherever I should come . . .

"These herbs, you will not eat them; for there is no ox in this country, no charger (war-horse), be he never so strong, which if he had a bit the size of a pea upon his tongue would not die a hard death, they are so strong and bitter . . .

"You will put them three days to steep in good, white wine; if you have not white, take red; if you have no red wine take fine, clear (fresh) water, for many a man has a well before his door who has not a cask of wine in his cellar. If you breakfast from it for thirteen mornings you will be cured of your various maladies.

"If my father and mother were in danger of death and they were to ask of me the best herb I could give them, I should give them this. This is how I sell my herbs and my ointments; if you want any, come and take them; if you don't want any, let them alone."

In France, such wandering herbalists were penalised when royal ordinances were enacted to prevent the illegal practice of medicine. In 1311, Phillippe the Fair and, in 1352, John the Good, made several decrees to curtail the activities of the herb-sellers. These monarchs considered the traders were "ignorant of men's tempers, of the time and mode of administering (medicines), of the virtues of medicines, above all, of laxatives in which lies danger of death." Ismabert also says, in his "*Recueil Général des anciennes lois Françaises*" (vol. III, p. 16, and IV, p. 676), that these persons "often come from abroad," go through the town and the suburbs, and venture to administer to the too confiding or too credulous sick "*clisteria multum laxativa et alia eis illicita*," so the royal authorities were justly indignant in their pronouncements against the itinerant herbalists.

In England, the wandering druggist had no better reputation. The popular songs and satires of the Middle Ages show them as frequenting the taverns where they were always on good terms with the worst citizens.

From "*Rosa Anglica*," compiled by John de Gaddesden, otherwise "*Joannis Anglici, praxis medica rosa anglica dicta*," during the early fourteenth century (published at Augsburg in 1595), one can obtain an insight into the methods adopted by this court doctor who attended Edward II (who reigned from 1307 to 1327).

Gaddesden describes (lib. ii p. 1050), how he managed to remove traces of the smallpox by wrapping the sick man in red clothes, and he adopted this method when he had to treat the heir to the throne. He says:

"Let scarlet red be taken, and let him who is suffering from smallpox be entirely wrapped in it, or in some other red cloth; I did this when the son of the illustrious King of England suffered from smallpox; I took care that all about his bed should be red, and that cure succeeded very well."

Usually it was by a sudden illumination that this doctor discovered his most efficacious remedies. For a

long time he says he had sought to find some means to cure stone, and relates (lib i p. 496) how he succeeded:

"At last, I thought of collecting a good quantity of those beetles which in summer are found in the dung of oxen, also of the crickets which sing in the fields. I cut off the heads and the wings of the crickets and put them with the beetles and common oil into a pot; I covered it and left it afterward for a day and night in a bread oven. I drew out the pot and heated it at a moderate fire, I pounded the whole and rubbed the sick parts; in three days the pain had disappeared."

He adds that the stone was broken into bits through the powers of the beetles and crickets!

One wonders if Madame Trotte of Salerno gave similar recipes to her distributing "sole agents."

However, Gaddesden, as a recognised physician, was able to use such methods, but not the wandering herbalist and just as legislation was introduced in France to control the activities of the itinerant druggists so similar controls were introduced in England, although the law was very careful to distinguish between a court physician and the humble, wandering herb-seller. Men like Gaddesden and his associates had the support of established reputations to enable them to treat their patients, and services for one member of the court would recommend the physicians to the affluent merchants who supplied their goods.

Because the physician, such as Gaddesden, had studied at Oxford, then he was considered to be an authority. Even a serious physician like Chaucer's doctor, who had grown rich during the Plague, did not neglect to read books on medicine and to commit his methods to paper—and to be seen doing so!

But the wandering herbalist, who probably knew as much about sickness and the human body as the recognised physicians, could not obtain recommendations from those in high places to other patients. He could not, like Gaddesden, rely upon his reputation to persuade his clients to swallow glow-worms, rub themselves with beetles and crickets, or give them as a remedy for diseases of the spleen "seven heads of fat bats," as recommended in the *Rosa Anglica*.

Consequently, the law decided the activities of the wandering drugseller would have to be controlled.

In rural districts, like most other wayfarers, the travelling herbalist found easy means to escape the clutches of the law—he pushed on, never staying very long at any place. But if he reached a town he was not always so fortunate.

In 1381, Roger the Clerk was sued for the illegal practice of medicine in London, because he tried to cure a woman by making her wear a certain parchment upon her bosom. He was taken to the pillory "through the middle of the city, with trumpets and pipes," on a horse without a saddle—probably he rode facing the tail of the animal—his parchment and whetstone round his neck, with other signs of his disgrace hung around his neck and down his back, to show that he "had lied."

## PART II

In 1421, the young king, Henry V, uneasy concerning the many wandering herbalists, passed on "Ordinance against the meddlers with physic and surgery," hoping "to get rid of the mischiefs and dangers which have long continued within the kingdom among the people by means of those who have used the arts and practice of physic and surgery, pretending to be well and sufficiently taught in the same arts, when of truth they are not so."

In future there would be severe punishments imposed on all doctors who have not been approved in their arts, "that is to say, those of physic by the universities, and the surgeons by the masters of that art." ("Rolls of Parliament," 9 Hen. V., vol iv, p. 130).

However, the irregularities continued, as bad as before. Therefore, in 1461, the first year of the reign of Edward IV, to give greater authority to those who practised blood-letting and cupping, the State recognised the incorporation of the Company of the Barbers of London, who used the faculty of surgery. At the same time, the members of this livery company were able to practise as physicians and doctors.

But the barbers, cheapjacks, empirics and sorcerers continued to flourish even amidst the spread of knowledge during the period now termed the Renaissance. Henry VIII became alarmed and in 1512, by statute (3 Hen. VIII, cap 11), promulgated new rules, and this statute stated:

"The science and connyng (cunning, knowledge) of physyke and surgeries, to the perfecte knowlege whereof bee requisite bothe grete (great) lernynge (learning) and ripe experiance, ys (is) daily within this Royalme (realm) exercised by a grete multitude of ignoraunt persones, of whom the grete partie have no manner of insight in the same nor in any other kynde of lernynge; some also can (con, know) no lettres, soofarfurth that common artificers, as smyths, wevers (weavers), and women boldely and custumably take upon them grete curis (cures) and thyngys of great difficultie, in the which they partly use sorcery and which-crafte (witchcraft), partly applie such medicine unto the disease as to be verey noyous (noxious) and nothyng merely therfore, to the high displeasoure of God."

Consequently, any person who wished to practise as a doctor or physician in London or within seven miles of the city, had to submit to an examination before the Bishop of the capital, or before the Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, assisted by "four doctors of phisyk." In the country districts the examination was to take place before the bishop of the diocese or his vicar-general.

In 1540, Henry VIII united the Company of Barbers with the College of Surgeons, and each year granted the new company the bodies of four condemned criminals for the purpose of dissection and the study of anatomy.

Hardly had the crafts of medicine and surgery been officially recognised when there came a swing round in public opinion, and the legislators were forced to consider the claims of the despised unregistered "quacks"—possibly because, as a result of the dissolution of the monasteries, many monks, with advanced knowledge of surgery and medicine, had been forced to join the ranks of the wandering herbalists. The humble artisans had been well treated at the monastic hospitals and had faith in the medical treatments of the monks and nuns.

The villagers, and even townsfolk, patronised the wandering herbalists, the possessors of infallible secrets, who had been so harshly treated by the statute of 1511.

New laws had to be passed (Statues 32 Hen VIII, cap 42; and 34-35 Hen VIII cap 8), and these regulations appear to be long accusations against the authorised doctors. The statutes suggest that the certified physicians poisoned their clients just the same as the wandering herbalists, but the chartered practitioners collected far more money for doing so than the itinerant herb-sellers. As one act comments:

"Mynding onlie theyre owne lucres, and nothing the profite or ease of the diseased or patient (they) have sued, troubled and vexed divers honest persones as well men and woomen, whome God hath endued with the knowledge of the nature, kinde, and operacion of certayne herbes, rotes (roots), and waters . . . and yet the saide persones have not taken anything for theyre peynes (pains) and cooning (cunning, knowledge), but have mynstrid the same to the poore people onelie for neighbourhode and Goddes sake, and of pite (pity) and charytie; and it is nowe well knownen that the surgeons admittid wool (will) doo no cure to any persone, but where they shall knowe to be rewarded with a greater



- |           |   |
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soome (sum) or rewarde than the cure extendeth unto, for in case (case) they wolde mynistre theyre cooning to sore (sick) people unrewarded, there shoulde not be so manye rotte and perishe to deathe for lacke of helpe of surgery as dailie doo."

In addition, in spite of the examinations by the Bishop of London, "the most parte of the persones of the saide crafte of surgeons have small cooning," consequently, all the king's subjects who have "by speculation or practyse" knowledge of the virtues of plantes, roots and medicinal or mineral or healing waters, may, as before, notwithstanding the regulations to the contrary, cure all maladies on the surface of the body, by means of plasters, poultices ad ointments, "within any parte of the realme of Englande, or within any other the kinges dominions."

This was a radical change. The secrets of the villagers were no longer the secrets of sorcerers. Such formulas were the precious recipes which the herbalists had received from God by intuition. The poor, exposed to die without the help of a doctor or physician, rejoiced as the itinerant herbalists and village "medicine-men" breathed again!

The wandering herb-seller continued to flourish together with the vendor of medicinal potations and ointments. That bold pedestrian Ben Jonson who, stick in hand, set out from London to walk to Scotland for pleasure, who knew so well the usual cheapjacks attending English fairs, in his "The Fox" (Act II, sc. i), printed in 1605, has provided the portrait of a quack doctor of his day. Certainly the picture is that of a Venetian of the seventeenth century, but the same type of man is still to be seen in the fairs of England and other countries even in this century. Jonson's cheapjack is much the same as the herb-seller whose sales-talk had been recorded by Rutebeuf nearly four centuries before.

During his many visits to Smithfield fair the dramatist heard many a cheapjack call out in inspiring tones, with his eyes turned towards heaven:

"O, health! health! the blessing of the rich! the riches of the poor! Who can buy these at too dear a rate, since there is no enjoying the world without these!"

Then Jonson's charlatan ridicules the recognised physicians, by boasting of his incomparable panacea, in which he uses a little human fat, which is worth a thousand crowns, but which he will sell for eight crowns, no, for six—and finally for sixpence! Yet, he affirms, a thousand crowns was what Cardinals Montalto and Farnese and his friend the Grand Duke of Tuscany have paid him, but for himself he despises money, and is prepared to make sacrifices for the humble people.

He also has a little of the powder which gave beauty to Venus and to Helen of Troy; this had been found in the ruins of Troy by one of his friends, who had sent him the treasure-trove. The friend had sent a little to the French court, but that portion had become "sophisticated," so the ladies who used it could not obtain such good results.

Three years later, when Thomas Coryat visited Venice in 1608, although he did not know Jonson's comedy, he says, in his "Crudities," first printed in 1611, that he marvelled at the activities of the mountebanks or cheapjacks, who sold "oyles (oils), soueraigne (sovereign) waters, amorous songs printed, apothecary drugs, and a common-weale of other trifles . . . I saw one of them holde a viper in his hand, and play with his sting a quarter of an hour together, and yet receive no hurt . . . He made us all beleieve, that the same viper was lineally descended from the generation of vipers that lept out of the fire upon St. Paul's head, in the island of Melita, now called Malta."

The sales-talk had not changed very much in three centuries; it has not changed very much in the three centuries since the publication of Coryat's book!

## SELF-MEDICATION—AN INALIENABLE RIGHT

Among the many arguments sometimes heard in behalf of the efforts to encourage the layman to indulge in self-medication is the statement that it is a man's privilege to treat himself for disease if he so wishes, and that nothing should be done to threaten this basic human right. This, indeed, is the argument which is used so often by many proprietary drug houses who seek by various means to promote mass self-medication and the over-the-counter sale of drugs in all types of retail outlets. We ourselves have heard an appeal to the emotions of legislators by agents of such companies with the question, "If you have a headache and need an aspirin tablet, don't you think you should be privileged to buy one?" The answer, of course, to this is, "Yes," and it is surely not the intent of those who are opposed to self-medication to make such a purchase impossible.

All those entrusted with the public responsibility for legislation and regulations pertaining to the sale of drugs must bear in mind that in the United States today the tendency to self-medication is slowly being reversed, and every barrier possible should be placed in the way of this ancient and empiric practice. If a citizen is not permitted by law to kill himself, to have an abortion, to mutilate himself, to refuse an education, and so forth, he surely should not be permitted the opportunity to jeopardise and even destroy his health by the use of drugs which he obtains by simple purchase to treat a self-diagnosed disease or illness.

It is bad enough to have some of the old time-honoured drugs still sold over the counter, but it is much worse to see the over-the-counter avenue of sale being widened to include combinations of drugs of the most potent and dangerous character.—"American Journal of Pharmacy."

## USEFUL AND INTERESTING BOOK

(Extract from "The Pharmaceutical Journal of New Zealand," September 10, 1956.)

THE PHARMACEUTICAL DOSE BOOK, 1956, giving a list of the drugs and doses of the British Pharmacopoeia, 1953, and The Addendum, 1955, with therapeutic notes.

Combined with this is an indication of Related Preparations of the Australian Pharmaceutical Formulary, 1955.

Published by the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria, 360 Swanston Street, Melbourne, C.I.

In the preface to this interesting and useful book, Mr. Eric Scott, President, Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria, gives the following reasons for the production of the work: "The decision to publish this book sprang from a suggestion made to the Council of the Society that a list of B.P. drugs and their doses should be published. The Council approved the suggestion. Mr. Allan Hull, a member of the Council, prepared a list.

"In discussion, short therapeutic notes and general comments were decided to be included.

"Dr. Bryon L. Stanton, F.R.A.C.P., F.P.S. (Vic.), undertook the task of preparing these notes."

And then follows an item of special interest. "The Council wishes to express its warm thanks to the directors of Sigma Co. Ltd., who generously undertook to purchase copies of the first edition of the book and distribute them with their compliments to all medical practitioners in Victoria and to final-year medical students and pharmacy students."

Sigma Co. Ltd., largely, if not completely, owned by pharmacists, has for many years been an important influence in Victorian—indeed, in Australian—pharmaceutical life.

# The Women's Section

Correspondent: Miss A. K. Anderson

Although, in Melbourne especially, our thoughts can get no further than the Olympic Games, and as the opening day approaches, even the least interested of us becomes infected with "Games Fever"—Christmas will be upon us very soon.

I would like to extend Christmas greetings and good wishes to members of Women Pharmaceutical Chemists' Associations in all States.

## THE WOMEN PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

Our last general meeting was held at the College on Thursday, November 1, when the President, Miss Smalley, welcomed members, and after a short business meeting introduced Mrs. Frank Menzies, the guest speaker for the evening.

Mrs. Menzies accompanied her husband, the Crown Solicitor, when, as a member of a Royal Commission, he was sent to South Africa by the Australian Government last year. As they were in the country in an official capacity, they were able to see and learn a great deal more than they would have as private tourists.

Mrs. Menzies is keenly interested in South Africa's problems and in women's affairs everywhere, and having answered all the many questions the women in South Africa asked about conditions in Australia, she is now keeping a promise made to them to tell Australian women about their country and some of their hopes.

As she is a very good speaker, with a wonderful memory for facts and figures, and a tremendous enthusiasm for her subject, Mrs. Menzies gave us a most stimulating and interesting talk. In giving us a picture of South Africa as it is today Mrs. Menzies explained that each province has a European Administrator, with a tribal chief under them. The tribal laws are very fine, and all tribes have their own strict code, but unfortunately the tribal chief has very little power now. For the people of South Africa whose skin is not white life is grim, with little hope for the future, under the present regime. The main population is made up of Africans (Europeans), Bantu, coloured people and Indians.

There are about nine million Bantu—the black African people—half of whom live in reserves and till the soil; the other half live in the cities, where they are employed in factories or domestic service. All have to leave the city before curfew and return to their location about four miles from the city. They receive no help from the Government with housing or schooling, are not allowed to mix with the white population, and can hold no responsible positions, though some of them are highly educated and have been to English universities.

The coloured people are descendants of all types and nationalities, belong to none, and are very unhappy, while the 400,000 Indians are very, very poor.

The Africans who are of European descent are very anti-British.

In contrast with South Africa, Rhodesia and Central Africa are working towards a united racial partnership. There is happiness and hope for the coloured races, and though the colour bar still exists, it is gradually and slowly being broken down. The Government is interested in housing, schools and universities, and

there is a general feeling of encouragement and hope throughout Rhodesia and Central Africa, as against hopelessness in the south.

Mrs. Menzies spoke of several of the interesting people she met, and the wonderful scenery, especially mentioning Victoria Falls.

She told us of the "Black Sash Brigade," the organisation of women throughout the country whose object is passive resistance against the Government of South Africa and their present policy.

At the conclusion of her tremendously interesting talk Mrs. Menzies answered a number of questions and was warmly thanked on our behalf by Mrs. Thompson.

Our Christmas Party is to be held at the College on Wednesday, December 12. All members are asked to bring a Christmas gift to hang on the tree for the old people to give them a little extra cheer at Christmas.

The Victorian Association sends Christmas greetings to all other State Associations.

## THE ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS OF NEW SOUTH WALES

For our November Meeting, which was attended by over 50 members, the Committee decided to engage the State Ballroom Annex in Market street for the evening in order to accommodate our larger gatherings.

A brief meeting was begun at 8 p.m. and Mrs. Campbell presided.

Among the apologies we received one from Miss Olga Anderson, our Secretary, who is still on the sick list. We all wish her a speedy recovery.

A welcome home was extended to three of our travellers—Misses Ellen Palmai, Joy Latham, Evelyn Tasker—and a party is to be given for these girls and their friends on November 26 at Miss Bellinfante's home.

Mrs. Fairfax read the minutes of the meeting held at "Science House" on October 10, and as there was no business arising from this, Mrs. Campbell proceeded to place the correspondence before the meeting.

Mrs. Curry, the Social Secretary, gave reports on the success of a recent theatre party, and of the Christmas Party we are arranging to be held at Glen Aschan, Darling Point, on December 18. All members and friends interested are requested to ring Mrs. Curry at WL 4123 for bookings and further details.

Mrs. Curtis had samples of badges from West Australia, South Australia and Victoria as well as our own. A vote was taken and it was found that, while our own badge was preferred by most members, the South Australian badge was their second choice. After the Treasurer, Miss Sweeney, gave her report, Mrs. Campbell handed the meeting over to Mr. Stewart, Eastern Suburbs representative for Kodak (A'sia) Pty. Ltd., and his band of technicians who had come to entertain us with some interesting films.

The first film was a Kodak informational "Counter Measures," which was of particular interest to pharmacists, and most people present found they had gained some helpful selling points from the film. The next film was a travelogue of P.A.A. and covered parts of England, Belgium and Luxembourg, in which many members relived past holidays. The third film was a technical film taking for its subject the different stages in the manufacture of a Kodak lens, from the manufacture of the special glass used incorporating Lan-



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thanum oxide—the oxide of a rare earth element—and known as Kodak glass, until the final polishing stage and mounting of the lens. The final film presented to the audience a delightful family holiday being recorded by a Kodak movie camera operated by the father of the family, and showed the delight for the family when these interesting shots were projected at a later date for a family gathering.

Miss Bessie Wunsch proposed the vote of thanks to Kodak for the delightful evening and for the beautiful supper which they had prepared for us.

N.B.—Don't forget the Christmas Party At Glen Ascham. The price of the ticket (£2) includes dining, wining and dancing. Cocktails are at 6.30 p.m., followed by dinner about 7.15 p.m. Just phone Mrs. Curry, WL 4123, for reservations.

#### THE ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN PHARMACISTS OF QUEENSLAND

The October meeting was the first general meeting held since July. The August meeting was cancelled as it fell during Exhibition Week, and on the third Thursday in September members took the opportunity of enjoying an evening at the theatre.

Mrs. Carlson opened our October meeting and extended a welcome to Miss Andrews, who is spending a few weeks in Brisbane before she returns to Tasmania.

This was the first meeting of women pharmacists held in the new Guild rooms, which are beautiful, comfortable and very convenient.

We are indebted to the Guild for making these rooms available to us on the third Thursday of every month.

#### WOMEN PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The last ordinary meeting of the year was held in the Lady Symon Lounge of the University of Adelaide on November 1. The President, Mrs. K. V. Read, welcomed the guests present, and also welcomed Miss Yvonne Fricker, who has recently returned from abroad. We were very pleased to have with us Miss M. Lister, a pharmacist from England, who is working in South Australia at present.

Members were reminded of the Christmas meeting which will take the form of a buffet dinner to be held at Tower House, Beaumont, on Wednesday, December 12. We are hoping for a good attendance, as everyone who attended last year had a most enjoyable evening.

The National Council of Women, with which we are affiliated, is asking all affiliated associations to raise £10 for the Building Fund by Christmas. It was decided not to hold a special function to raise our contribution, but members were asked to give donations.

We are hoping to hold a film evening early next year, and are also planning a dance next March or April.

Two of our members, Miss Margaret Evans and Miss Diane Campbell, are going overseas in December. We hope they will have a most enjoyable trip.

At the close of the business meeting the President introduced Mr. Norman Tindale, from the South Australian Museum, who gave a most interesting talk on "The Australian Aborigines." He traced the probable movements of three different peoples from Southern Asia who settled in three different parts of Australia. He showed slides illustrating the differences between these people. Mr. Tindale then showed slides of many different examples of aboriginal art.

At the close of Mr. Tindale's talk Miss Z. Walsh proposed a vote of thanks.

Members then adjourned to the coffee lounge for supper.

No. 4.

## VITAMIN E IN MEDICINE

CHRISTY C. J. Vitamin E in menopause; preliminary report of experimental and clinical study. *AM. J. OBSTET. GYNECOL.* 50, 84-7 (1945).

Treatment of severe symptoms of vasomotor instability was instituted in 25 patients, 22 to 55 years of age, of whom 1 was in the natural menopause and 24 in artificially instituted menopause. The daily dose given varied from 10 to 30 mg. tocopherol acetate, according to the degree of severity of the symptoms. Treatment was continued for 1 to 6 weeks depending upon the degree of response. The entire group of cases responded to the treatment and showed either complete relief or very marked improvement. No untoward after-effects were noted.

In some of the cases relief of vasomotor instability was more easily obtained with the use of vitamin E than with the use of estrogens; however, the chief advantage of vitamin E over estrogens is its freedom from stimulative effect on the genital system or on the parenchyma of the breast. Because vitamin E has no carcinogenic effect, it may be used quite freely in menopausal patients suffering from neoplasms.

FERGUSON H. E. The use of vitamin E in menopausal syndrome. *VIRGINIA MED. MONTH.* 75, 447-8 (1948).

Sixty of 66 patients with severe menopausal symptoms were completely relieved when treated with 15 to 30 mg. tocopherol daily. Occasionally, weekly intramuscular injections of 100 mg. of tocopherol were also required in stubborn cases. No objectionable side effects were noted.

RUBENSTEIN B. B. Vitamin E diminishes the vasomotor symptoms of menopause. *FED. PROC.* 7, 106 (1948).

Seventeen patients with severe vasomotor symptoms could not be relieved with barbiturates or placebos. All obtained prompt and complete relief with estrogens. In 14 of the 17 patients marked reduction in symptoms occurred on the administration of 75 mg. per day of Vitamin E. Only 6 obtained complete relief. Vitamin E may be useful in the treatment of those cases of severe menopausal symptoms in which estrogens are contraindicated.

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# Prescription Proprietaries and New Drugs



By

*Geoff K. Treleaven, Ph.C., F.P.S.*

PHARMACEUTICS DEPARTMENT,  
VICTORIAN COLLEGE  
OF PHARMACY

## A NEW ANTIBIOTIC — NOVOBIOCIN (Sodium)

A new antibiotic obtained by fermentation from a recently isolated micro-organism *Streptomyces niveus*, n. sp., or *Streptomyces sphaeroides*.

Whereas most antibiotics produced by actinomycetes are basic (e.g., streptomycin, streptothricin, erythromycin, and neomycin) or amphoteric (e.g., the tetracyclines) in character, Novobiocin is acidic, as is penicillin, and is stable under the degree of acidity or alkalinity found in the gastrointestinal tract.

### **Antibacterial Activity**

Novobiocin is active against both gram-positive and gram-negative bacterial infections in mice, including infections due to *Staph. aureus*, *Str. hemolyticus*, *D. Pneumoniae*, *P. vulgaris*, *Past. multocida*, *S. typhosa* and *K. pneumoniae*. It is inactive against tuberculosis in mice, although a high order of activity against *Myco. tuberculosis H37Rv* was found in vitro. With resistant *M. pyogenes* var. *aureus* isolated from patients or *M. pyogenes* var. *aureus* made resistant by serial passage in vitro, Novobiocin shows no cross-resistance with penicillin, chlortetracycline, oxytetracycline, tetracycline, streptomycin, chloramphenicol, or erythromycin. However, in vitro studies indicate that *M. pyogenes* var. *aureus* may develop resistance to Novobiocin as with other antibiotics.

**Diffusion into Body Fluids.**—When appreciable amounts of Novobiocin are present in the serum, the antibiotic diffuses into the pleural and ascitic fluid; it does not diffuse into the cerebrospinal fluid. Novobiocin appears to be concentrated in the liver and excreted in the bile.

### **Indications and Dosage**

Novobiocin is indicated in the treatment of staphylococcal infections, particularly in patients who are allergic to other antibiotics or in infections in which the organism is resistant to other antibiotics and sensitive to Novobiocin, and urinary tract infections due to micro-organisms resistant to present commonly employed therapy but sensitive to Novobiocin, notably certain strains of *Proteus*. Novobiocin is not indicated in the treatment of gonorrhoea. Clinical studies of its value in other recalcitrant infections are in progress.

The recommended dose in adults is 1 Gm. initially followed by 250 mg. every 6 hours or 500 mg. every 12 hours, continued for at least 48 hours after the temperature has returned to normal and all evidence of infection has disappeared. In severe or unusually resistant infections, 0.5 Gm. every 6 hours or 1 Gm. every 12 hours may be employed.

The dose for children on similar schedules is 15 mg. per kilogram of body weight per day for moderate acute infections, and it may be increased to 30 to 45 mg. per kilogram of body weight per day for severe infections.

### **Toxicity**

Urticaria and maculopapular dermatitis have been reported in a few cases, particularly in higher dosage. Leukopenia has been reported in 1% of cases. A yellow pigment has been seen in the plasma, but is not considered a contra-indication.

Novobiocin was formerly known by the generic name of "Streptonivicin."

### **Proprietary Preparations of Crystalline Novobiocin Monosodium**

ALBAMYCIN (Upjohn)      Capsules 250 mg.

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"RESEARCH". One of a series of drawings at Blandfield Chemical Works by J. Porteous Wood, R.S.W.

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## New Books

*Report on China.* A booklet of ten articles by members of the Australian Cultural Delegation. Published in Sydney by the Australia-China Society. Price 4/-.

The Chinese People's Association for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries recently invited the Australia-China Society to send a small group on a visit to China to see what the "new order" had accomplished. Professor C. P. Fitzgerald, Professor of Far Eastern History at the Australian National University, Canberra, gathered ten others to form with him the Cultural Delegation. These were Douglas Annand (artist), Chas. Bush (artist), Leonard Cox (physician and hon. curator, Oriental Section, Art Gallery, Melbourne), A. R. Davis (Professor of Oriental Studies, University of Sydney), Elaine Haxton (artist), G. F. Lewers (sculptor), A. D. Lindsay (forestry officer), Alan Marshall (writer), P. H. Partridge (Professor Social Philosophy, Australian National University, Canberra), A. R. Penfold (former director, Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney).

Their tour was made in May-June of this year. Their impressions of the new and actively reconstructing China are given in this lively and informal report, which gains from the variety of interests and viewpoints that were represented and from the delightful illustrations provided by the artist members.

The reviewer feels that *Report on China* should be read widely, for Australia is in need of information from trained and detached observers about the progress of China. The booklet gains from its modest approach, its frank avowal that the group spent less than a month in China, and also that it attempts no final judgments and generalisations. It is a record of impressions of travel and of informal contacts with many individuals.

Professor Fitzgerald had the advantage of twenty years' residence in former China. He was able to revisit cities and villages he had known previously and to meet old friends and ascertain how they fared and something of what they thought. Some things he mentions are:—The amazing progress and achievements of collective farming; the monotonously uniform and very simple dress of the people; the general improvement in the welfare and well-being of the rank and file, "where villages were (formerly) dirty and incredibly insanitary, now they are clean; where people were in rags now they are dressed in simple but sufficient clothing; where children had pot bellies from malnutrition now they are healthy and look well fed." He found that many intellectuals and some members of the former educated landlord class were working enthusiastically for the New China. Why? Two reasons he suggests are that for the first time these people find their talents really employed at full stretch; they are working at pressure, which keeps them happy as well as active; secondly, there is an "awakening of conscience," what he calls "the remorse of the former rich" for the neglect of centuries; a realisation that a great social wrong had been committed and a willingness now to repair it.

Professor Fitzgerald sought to find how these great changes are accomplished. He thinks not by compulsion, nor by armed force, nor by police measures, but chiefly by a full systematic and continuous use of persuasion, propaganda and slogans. Western communities dissipate much energy and wealth in advertisement directed to private ends. The Chinese Government concentrates on the whole apparatus of publicity from radio to pamphlets to advance its cause. It employs propaganda in the widest sense of the term. He says, "You cannot understand Chinese society today unless you take account of these forces of persuasion, how they are organised, how they are directed and concentrated from subject to subject, just as desired and the effect that this produces."

Pharmaceutical chemists will be keenly interested in Mr. A. R. Penfold's observations. In his article, *An Australian Chemist in China*, he gives some impressions of progress in both heavy and fine chemical industry, in plastics, porcelain and paint. Naturally he was greatly interested in trade exhibitions and museums. He was greatly impressed by the speed of execution of the programme of reconstruction and industrialisation; by the ability with which a planned economy can deal simultaneously and efficiently with many activities, and by the popularity of science courses, particularly chemistry, in the universities.

Dr. Leonard Cox (Melbourne) reports briefly on progress that has been made in preventive medicine, in public health services, in medical training and in medical research. He suggests that much that is being done now will be modified and extended in the light of further experience, but concludes that the Chinese "have achieved notable success in a short time, particularly in the all-important matter of public health."

While reading and pondering on *Report on China*, the text of a recent B.B.C. third programme broadcast came to hand. It dealt with the same problems. This talk was entitled *China Revisited*, and was given by Victor Purcell, lecturer in Far Eastern History, Cambridge University. Like Professor Fitzgerald, he, too, had lived for many years in China, and was able to compare and contrast the old and the new. He answered these questions. *How are the people faring?* There was an atmosphere of enthusiasm wherever I went, for the people do seem to believe that for the first time in history they have their destiny in their own hands. In Peking 30,000 volunteers were giving up their Sundays to work on a new canal to augment the city's water supply. They were laughing and joking as they worked. The currency is stable, unlike that of most countries in S.E. Asia, and wages are keeping pace with cost of living.

*Are the people better off than they were before?* In the light of my recollection of the past there can be no possible doubt that they are, both materially and psychologically. *Did I enjoy my visit?* Emphatically yes; everyone was so pleasant, and I felt no hint of anti-foreignism. He concluded: *Would I like to live under this or any other Communist regime?* No, I would not. My objection to Communism, above all, is its authoritarian nature; the existence of a "Communist Bible," which lays down rules for everything from economics to art, I personally, find intolerable.

Nevertheless, the People's Republic is less oppressive both to soul and body than was the Kuomintang, and in the light of my experience I would say that it is the most stable and popular regime that has existed in China since the Revolution.

*Report on China* will repay the reading and will provoke much thought. Australia cannot afford to ignore China and the ways in which she is endeavouring to solve major problems. It is another lesson in purpose and enthusiasm.—A.T.S.S.

## PHARMACIST MAY BECOME TECHNICIAN

### Education Holds Hope for Future

By Sir Hugh Linstead, President, F.I.P.

(With acknowledgments to "The Canadian Pharmaceutical Journal")

Our discussion (at the General Assembly of the F.I.P.) has shown that in every country today strong economic, social and political forces are at work modifying the traditional pattern of pharmacy. It is being assailed simultaneously by at least four forces: by the full effects of the industrial revolution of the nineteenth century, by the social revolution of the twentieth century, by the immense advances in recent years of medical science and by the impoverishment of the world by two devastating wars. All these are beating against the barricades of the traditional pharmacy of the chemist's shop.

### Guarding Our Interests

Everywhere we find the national pharmaceutical organisations busying themselves with their primary duty of safeguarding the professional interests of their members.

But in spite of all that may be done extemporaneously to meet this attack on the other, and in spite of local successes, we must not expect to hold the front everywhere. Nor ought we to do so. Small-pox in the nineteenth century and diphtheria in our own would never have yielded to the resources of the chemist's shop. Inevitably in many places the tide of industrialisation will sweep through the barricades.

### Dangers and Counter-measures

The purpose of these remarks is to underline one danger and to emphasise one counter-measure. The danger is that these changes may result in the pharmacist finding that he is progressively losing the responsibilities and therefore the status of an independent professional man: that he may find himself performing a valuable service along the production line between the raw material and the finished medicament, but as a technician and not as a professional man.

The remedy is, I suggest, to be found firstly in unremitted attention by national organisations to everything that sustains the professional independence of the pharmacist. Secondly, it is to be found in the care of our universities and schools of pharmacy to ensure that the men and women whom they send out into the profession are notable not only for their knowledge but equally for their personality.

I believe we have to re-assess the pharmacist's position in industry and in retail practice. And, if need be, our schools of pharmacy must re-examine their syllabuses and their policies.

### Industrial Pharmacy

There can be no question that many of today's problems in industrial pharmacy have a large professional and ethical content. Specialties are subjected to strong criticism, sometimes justified, more often not. Suppose a new medicament is offered for exploitation. It must be decided whether it represents a real therapeutic advance, what claims can be made for its effectiveness, how it shall be named. It may be occasionally easy to answer these questions. But more often the point is whether or not to exploit something that has had restricted clinical trials only or that represents some limited molecular change from an existing substance. It is then that there should be a pharmaceutical voice to say whether development should await further experiment and whether such and such a claim can be justified or not.

### Role in Industry

No industrial firm of repute will embark on a new policy if it can be shown that it is scientifically unsound or professionally dubious. It is an important role for the pharmacist in industry to provide such advice with the right balance of argument at the right time and in the right place.

And whether a pharmacist will find himself in the right place at the right time will depend as much upon

his qualities as a man as upon his knowledge as a pharmacist.

### Influence on Medicine

The advent of the factory-made medicine has, of course, had a profound influence on the general practice of medicine as well as on pharmacy. Fifty years ago it was the physician who was a good physician that he designed a prescription to fit the needs and the constitution of the individual patient. Today the patient is more often fitted to the medicine. The physician is the diagnostician. It is the manufacturer who provides the remedy and prescribes the dose. Fifty years ago the young doctor could equip himself with knowledge of the action and uses of, say, fifty drugs, knowing that he was as prepared as science could make him to meet the routine needs of his practice. And they were simple vegetable or chemical entities called by names that a doctor might remember.

### Problems Multiplied

But we have changed all that. And by changing it we have multiplied the problems of the professor of medicine and the medical student. Because the number of chemical and biological products today is legion, your professor is driven to concentrate upon principles. Yet even the principles of therapeutics are perpetually changing. How the medical student is to be so equipped with basic knowledge as to remain up to date after he quits his hospital is an almost insoluble problem for the medical educationist. The rule of thumb at present—and it is a sound one—is to trust the firm with an established name, good research facilities and a reputation to lose. But surely here is one of the major roles for the pharmacist. He must be the adviser in pharmacology to the general practitioner of medicine year by year as medicine advances. He must be ready also to differentiate between firm and firm, product and product, advertisement and advertisement, for here is a weak link in the medical chain which pharmacy has a duty to strengthen. And to give this advice wisely and fairly needs not only knowledge but responsibility and integrity of a high order.

## DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

(Extract from an article, "A Call for Clear Thinking on Ethics," published in "The Chemist and Druggist," August 18, 1956.)

Indeed, it may well be asked whether the disciplinary procedure of the Statutory Committee is not being abused for the purpose of enforcing a policy. A further point arises out of the application of the Society's disciplinary procedure to the unqualified directors of corporate bodies. According to a report (C. & D., August 6, p. 143) upon disciplinary proceedings arising from the conviction of an unqualified director of a corporate body, the Statutory Committee found that the penal directions provided for in the Pharmacy Acts could not be applied to a company unless the misconduct of a director convicted of a criminal offence could be proved to have been instigated or connived at by a second member of the board. For being convicted of the same offence a pharmacist director might well have been struck off the Register. The distinction, which arises out of the court's interpretation of the protection given by the Act to employers in respect of misdeeds of their employees, would seem to make the prosecution's onus of proof more burdensome in respect of unqualified directors than of proprietor pharmacists, and to some extent to frustrate disciplinary control as applied to corporate-body ownership. For any standards of conduct that are to depend upon disciplinary action before they can be realised—and we have previously (C. & D., February 11, p. 143) given our adverse views on that method of establishing a progressive code—another hazard seems to have been added, therefore, by the outcome of those proceedings.

# NEW PRODUCTS

The following new products which have come to the Editor's attention during the past month have been judged newsworthy, and are herein reported as news.

If the manufacturer or agent would like an illustration of his product to appear as part of this free reference, the block should not exceed the equivalent of 1½ in. square. The Journal will arrange production of the block if desired, and the only charge made will be for the cost of the block, and for any art work required if we have to work from an actual sample of the product. A photograph would be preferable.

Those wishing to avail themselves of this service are invited to send pithy information (with photograph or block) for use as opportunity offers at the Editor's discretion.

## KODAK PHOTO-PRINT OUTFIT

A new and complete "do it yourself" outfit for printing snapshots at home . . . ideal Christmas gift for beginners who would like to get more out of their hobby than simply operating a camera. It's so easy too . . . thanks to the completely illustrated instruction book which outlines each step of the process. Furthermore, no special dark room is needed . . . just draw the blinds and you're ready to enjoy the thrill of printing your own snapshots.

The attractive plastic container is specially designed so that it becomes

the actual set of processing dishes. In addition, the outfit contains the following items necessary for printing snapshots from your own negatives: 4-oz. plastic measure, printing frame and masks (2½ in. x 3½ in.), stirring rod, thermometer, dark room torch (with battery and safelight), 1 pkt. Velox Sensitized Paper, 2 pkts. Kodak Universal M-Q Developer, 2 pkts. Kodak Acid Fixer.

Should you wish, later on, to develop your own films, the addition of a Kodacraft Roll-Film Tank to the above will make your equipment complete.

Price £2/18/6. Available from all Kodak Stores and Kodak Dealers.



## NEW FASHIONS IN PERFUME

Potter & Moore (Aust.) Pty. Ltd. has introduced Cream Sachet Perfume, stated to be the latest overseas fashion vogue in the use and application of perfume.

Cream Sachet Perfume is fragrance in its most concentrated form, blended with a cream that ensures application exactly where required. It comes in a colourful plastic squeeze dispenser bottle with gold-plated screw top made to fit the daintiest handbag.

Its popularity overseas is based on the fact that it cannot leak or evaporate, is convenient to carry, economical to use and easy to apply on pulse points.

Cream Sachet Perfume is available in Lily of the Valley, Gardenia, Oriental Poppy, Frangipani and two new Potter &

Moore creations—Orange Blossom and Apple Flower Fragrance.

These are made up into an attractive counter merchandiser containing two each of the six perfumes, or they can be purchased in any individual perfume packed one dozen to plain box.

Prices: Wholesale, 42/6 dozen; retail, 5/11 each.

## KODAK PHOTO-HOBBY OUTFIT

Here's a "just-right" gift for that hobby-minded boy or girl on your Christmas shopping list—it's the Kodak Photo-Hobby Outfit recently announced by Kodak.

It is so simple to use, thanks to the simple step-by-step instruction chart included with each kit, that it makes an ideal gift to any photo-hobbyist who would like to develop and print his own films. In fact, it can start him off on a fascinating hobby that could easily lead to a full-time career in photography. It contains everything needed for successful

developing and printing of snapshots—Kodacraft Roll-Film Tank (which eliminates the need for a dark room), printing frame and masks (2½ in. x 3½ in.), 4-oz. plastic measure, 2 film clips, thermometer, stirring rod, 3 rocker dishes, blotter book, sponge, safelight lamp, 2 pkts Velox Sensitized Paper, 4 pkts. Kodak Universal M-Q Developer, and 4 pkts. Kodak Acid Fixer. Neatly packed in an attractive box that is pleasing to the eye and compact for storage.

Price, £5/10/-. Available from all Kodak Stores and Kodak Dealers.

## NAPRO HAIR LIGHTENER

The purpose of this line recently introduced by "Napro" is to cater for those women who want to lighten their hair just a shade or two, and who might be afraid of the name "Blonding Emulsion." Thousands of women use colour rinses to brighten their hair, but for technical reasons rinses, irrespective of brand, are not 100 per cent. satisfactory. "Hair Lightener," it is claimed, will do a better job than all rinses in the Light, Medium and Dark Brown category.

Hair Lightener is stated to be simple and pleasant to use and is not a "messy" job.

Price: 43/- dozen, retail 6/7. One size only.

## POND'S ANGEL FACE

### New Glamorous Compact

A glamorous Powder and Foundation in one, vaporised with beauty oils.

Not drying to the skin and never shiny. Clings longer than ordinary powder.

Packed in the new glamorous Pink case, and marketed in six beautiful skin tones.

"It's Pink and it's Glamorous."

Retail Price, 8/6. Available all drug houses.



# Overseas News

## GREAT BRITAIN

London, November 8, 1956.

### Change in Prescription Levy

Two important changes affecting pharmacists have occurred during the past month, a change in the amount contributed by members of the public for prescriptions and the acceptance of new terms by contractors. Towards the end of October the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. H. Macmillan) announced in the House of Commons that he proposed to increase the levy on prescriptions from 1/- per form to 1/- per item. The cost per prescription was now over 5/-, and he estimated the change would produce £750,000 during the present year. At present the average number of items per form is between 1.75 and 1.80. The original levy was introduced in June, 1952, although it had been proposed three years earlier. The view then taken was that the change would tend to reduce the number of calls on doctors and pharmacists, as it would reduce excessive and unnecessary consultations for trivial ailments. At that time the British Medical Association welcomed the change, as there were demands on doctors for simple household remedies at the country's expense. Later the Association altered its view and condemned the proposal as a tax on illness. This view has been reiterated since it was announced that the charge was to be raised.

Chemists will encounter additional difficulties with the new scheme, as each prescription must be examined when it is brought in, to determine the appropriate charge, as this can only be done by a skilled dispenser, whereas at present a counter assistant may often accept a prescription without additional guidance. When the charge was originally introduced there was a fall in the number of prescriptions, but this was of a temporary nature only. At the Executive Council's Association Conference a week before the Chancellor's announcement, the Minister of Health expressed his serious alarm at the considerable increase in the cost of drugs. In the first four months of 1956, prescribing costs were again higher than in other years. In April, the average prescription had cost 4/7½ compared with 4/3½ in April, 1955 and 3/2½ in 1950. More must be found out about the background of the problem. Was the student armed to face the difficulties of present-day prescribing when he became a practitioner? What influence did the hospitals exert when patients were referred to them? What was the effect of pressure from patients? What was the effect of the pressure of modern salesmanship by the drug houses? Help would be given by the Ministry by informing the practitioner of the prices of new drugs and the cost of his own prescribing compared with the area average.

### New Terms for Chemists

Representatives of Pharmaceutical Committees decided at a conference on November 1 to accept the new rates of remuneration offered by the Ministry of Health. This consists of an increase of 2½d. per prescription for all prescriptions dispensed during 1956, and a retrospective payment of 1½d. for those dispensed in 1955. Over four years have elapsed since the first steps were taken for an increase in remuneration, and the figure of 2½d. has only been achieved after prolonged discussions. The addition of 2½d. should bring the average dispensing fee in England and Wales to around 1/2½ per prescription. It is the opinion of the National Pharmaceutical Union that this should give an average surplus of 2½d. per prescription, which would be equiva-

lent to a net profit of 3.9 per cent. on current turnover. Increases in overheads from the beginning of 1956 are being kept under review.

It has been agreed that chemists will participate in an inquiry into drug buying prices, as the Public Accounts Committee of the House of Commons believes that the Drug Tariff prices are in excess of the actual rates paid by contractors. In the proposed sample 2370 chemists have been asked to participate, and the prices of six selected drugs will be obtained from each chemist. It is perhaps a reflection on current prescribing that in each of the five groups of six drugs the prices of either two or three types of tablets are asked.

The Conference decided to take no action meanwhile on the suggestion that differential payments might be introduced in favour of contractors dispensing a small number of prescriptions only.

### Warning to Chemists

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society have issued warning notices on the sale of teething preparations containing mercury and on oral hypoglycaemic agents. The terms of the statement are as follows:—

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

*The Council of the Society have authorised the publication of the following statements:*

#### Teething Preparations Containing Mercury

In 1954 attention was drawn to the danger of the use of teething preparations containing mercury or mercury compounds owing to evidence of a connection between these preparations and pink disease. In view of information that they are still being supplied, attention is again drawn to the danger of the use of such preparations, and it is strongly urged that they be not supplied.

#### Oral Hypoglycaemic Agents

Recent reports indicate that the following two preparations may shortly be marketed for the oral treatment of diabetes:

Approved Name	Other Names
Carbutamide	N-Butyl-N'-sulphanilylurea Nadisan; Invenol; BZ.55
Tolbutamide	N-Butyl-N'-toluene-p-sulphonylurea Orinase; D.860

It will be noted that the first of these belongs to a class of substances already included in the Fourth Schedule to the Poisons Rules. Tolbutamide is not in the Poisons List, but it should, as carbutamide, only be used under close medical supervision, and consequently should not be supplied except on prescription. The same care needs to be exercised in the supply of any other oral hypoglycaemic agents which may be introduced, but which are not subject to Fourth Schedule requirements.

Fourth Schedule preparations can only be sold in Britain on medical prescription.

### Pharmacy in the Forces

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society has issued a statement on the report made by the Forces Medical and Dental Services Committee (see August News Letter). Particular exception is taken to a paragraph in the report from which it might be inferred that the training of pharmacists should be undertaken in the Army and Air Force, and that if the Society failed to recognise this for admission to the Register, these Forces should set up their own qualification for pharmacists. This, says the statement, would arouse the

'Savlon' - Antiseptic Cream

# 'Savlon' Success Continues

Used in  
Thousands  
of Homes for  
Cuts,  
Burns,  
Grazes,  
Napkin Rash,  
Small wounds,  
Common skin  
complaints,  
etc.



**NOW  
12 TUBES OF  
'SAVTON'  
for the PRICE OF 11**

*Your  
outlay . 27'6*

*Your  
return . 45'-*

The demand for 'Savlon', since its introduction in May last, was so terrific that distributors' stocks were quickly snapped up - Ample supplies of 'Savlon' are now available - Order now from your wholesaler

*Remember! 'Savlon' is sold only by Chemists*

**display  
and sell**



2022 MAY SIX ANNUAL



**IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES OF AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND LTD.**

'Savlon' is the Trade Mark of Imperial Chemical (Pharmaceuticals) Ltd., a subsidiary of Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.

# Only your best-selling lines make the most of your **COUNTER SPACE**



**Hundreds of retailers tell us that  
a Wrigley Counter Sales Unit is a  
money-maker on any counter.**

Maybe a dud line won't gather moss quite so quickly on your counter as it will on a shelf. But think of the profits you're losing in the meantime on your fastest-moving, most profitable lines.

Your goods must earn their place on your counter. They must work harder and faster when your store is at its busiest. That's why attractively packed, nationally-advertised products are your best counter sales bet. Regular surveys of shopping habits made in America by Dupont show that confectionery and chewing gum head the list of impulse items. 94.5% of all chewing gum is bought on impulse. Hundreds of retailers have turned this fact to their advantage: Customers buy chewing gum *on sight, in the store*. They seldom plan the purchase.

Make chewing gum and the other self-selling, fast-moving impulse items do the most for you . . . earn the most for you. Successful retailers have used the Wrigley counter sales unit to help them do just this. They concentrate chewing gum and confectionery on the counter—where these popular lines sell on sight.

Wrigley's **ARROWMIND** Gum is the new name for an old favourite. Display the familiar red, green and white packet with the new distinctive name and trade mark for extra sales.

G44

most strenuous opposition if ever the attempt were made to act upon it. The Committee's recommendations in general will do little or nothing to solve the problems of pharmaceutical organisation or equipment in the Army or Air Force. The only hopeful aspect of the proposals is the suggestion that Service Departments should establish machinery for systematic and continuous consultations with civil qualifying bodies. This would be a step forward, since the Society's experience has been one of difficulty in securing adequate discussion of pharmaceutical problems with Service Departments.

#### School of Pharmacy

At the opening ceremony of the 115th session of the School of Pharmacy, University of London, Sir Harry Jephcott presided. An inaugural address on "Education Responsibility in Our Technological Age" was given by Dr. Percy Dunsheath. Dr. Dunsheath is Chairman of the Convocation of the University and is a former Chairman of the Education Committee of the Federation of British Industries. In the course of his address Dr. Dunsheath called attention to the comparative lack of technologists in Great Britain. The total annual number in training in Britain was around 6800 compared with 22,000 in the United States and 60,000 in Russia. Russia was not only producing over eight professional men to each one in Britain, but a greater measure of specialisation and general high standard existed there. In the United Kingdom 136 technologists were produced per million of the population, against 140 in the United States and 280 in Russia. It was quite certain that if Britain produced less than half the number per million than in Russia, nothing could prevent a growing disparity between our technological potential and theirs, a position which could be socially disastrous to Britain in the not very distant future.

The question of specialisation was not an easy one to resolve. "A man must obviously attain a high degree of proficiency in the special field he has chosen for his life's work, and it is sometimes argued, much too readily, that therefore he has no time for the broadening influences. Educational responsibility here would have to be along the lines of subject-splintering. As a subject grows by the accretion of knowledge, there would seem to be no reason why those planning the university course for the specialist should force him to attempt the same high degree of specialisation over the wider field. Today no man can know all chemistry, so that the name chemist has ceased to designate the specialist, and each of the many branches of chemistry now finds a life's work for the individual. We need more of what I would call the "peak and plateau" education, where the peak, though narrow, is an Everest and the plateau, though quite moderate in elevation, has a wide area. There is a philosophy of education which frowns on any departure from complete coverage of a restricted syllabus, but with the proliferation of knowledge, the promulgation of such ideas may be a disservice to humanity. To know sufficient to enjoy a play at the Opera Comique may easily excuse an inability to discuss the application of Aristotle's Theory of Drama to the plays of Corneille or Racine."

We cannot give too much thought to the study of educational potential with a view to providing what the age requires. Whether it be electronics, computer technique or one of the great fields in chemistry, the philosophy of the schools and universities today will affect such real issues as redundancy and strikes, simultaneous surplus labour and inadequate provision of technological elite. It may seem a paradox that to meet the consequences of technological progress we must have more and better technology, but so it is, and there is no turning back."

#### British-made Chemicals

At the forty-fifth annual general meeting of the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers, the Chairman (Mr. G. F. Williams) said that the industry could be justly proud of the part it was playing in the com-

bat against inflation. Last year chemical exports were valued at over £230 million and came third among the manufacturing industries. Chemicals to the value of £22 million were exported in 1955 to the dollar markets. They ought not to rest on their laurels, for between 1951 and 1955 the U.K. share of the world trade in chemicals had dropped from 17.3 per cent. to 16.7 per cent., while the German share had increased from 13.5 per cent. to 17.4 per cent. The picture for the five years 1950 to 1955 was even worse, for the U.K. share had dropped from 25.5 per cent. to 19.8 per cent., while the German share had risen from 7.3 per cent. to 15.6 per cent.

At the annual dinner which followed, Sir Cyril Hindshelwood, President of the Royal Society, suggested that some thought should be given to the question of the education of recruits to the industry. He was not quite happy about the present trend in this country of the relation of the arts and the sciences in education. They did not seem to be getting any closer together. He was a little worried that young people were being segregated by headmasters and others into those destined for administration, who must be reared on the arts, and those who were going to be back-room boys and must be reared on the sciences. He was sure that that was absolutely wrong. It was necessary to begin to learn science when young, otherwise the student found the fundamental ideas very difficult to grasp. Such study should not be confined to those who intended to be specialists, because people should be brought up with an understanding of the other side.

#### Higher Salaries for Pharmacists

As a result of an arbitration award under an Industrial Court, pharmacists acting as managers have had their minimum salary raised by 20/- per week and qualified assistants by 15/-. This brings the minimum salary for a manager in London to £13/18/6 per week and gives £18/5/6 to a pharmacist managing a business with a weekly turnover of £600. Salaries in the provinces are slightly below these figures, and women pharmacists receive 10/- per week less. Male assistants will receive a minimum of £11/2/- immediately after qualifying, rising to £12/2/- in their third year, while the scale for dispensers in London ranges from £8/18/- at age 20 to £8/18/6 at age 24. Their salaries have gone up by 10/- for males and 7/6 for females who have had three years' experience in dispensing. This is the first occasion in which there has been an appeal to arbitration in the minimum sets of salary scales which have been issued since the Joint Industrial Council came into being during the war years. The new rates for pharmacists are exactly those offered by the employers' side, and dispensers have gained only 1/6 per week above the offer. In fact, many pharmacists are receiving substantially higher salaries than those given. Advertisements in the trade press offer from around £800 to £1250 per annum; the latter figure is for a manager in a large business, but in the multiples many managers exceed this figure substantially after long service with their firms. One result of the new scales is that there will be a further upsurge in wages throughout retail pharmacy. The revision in managerial salaries immediately absorbs the increase on 96 prescriptions per week, as mentioned above, so that the owner of a small branch business will have markedly increased dispensing overheads.

#### Accidental Poisoning of Children

At a meeting of the Edinburgh Accident Prevention Council, Councillor George Hedderwick, himself a pharmacist, said that a quarter of all poisonings in the country happened in Scotland, although only one-ninth of the population resided there. Poisoning figures in Scotland lead the world. He urged that a circular should be prepared for circulation to the public on the use and care of poisons. Dr. H. E. Seiler, the Medical Officer of Health, drew special attention to the large number of young children who had been poisoned by drugs and cleaning materials as a result of inadequate

care, thought and supervision by parents. Accidental poisoning by phenobarbitone and aspirin were common in the city, though all the cases had recovered. The Chairman of the Home Safety Committee doubted if Scottish mothers were more careless than those in other parts of the world. Perhaps more drugs were used in Scotland, or perhaps the high incidence was due to the large number of small houses which lacked places to lock up drugs.

The need for the special care of medicines in houses where there are young children has often been brought up at meetings of the Society's branch representatives, but very little has been done by the health authorities.

## SOUTH AFRICA

### New Headquarters Formally Opened

South African pharmacy experienced a signal event this month, a veritable landmark in its history—the opening of its new headquarters in Johannesburg.

[An illustration of the new premises was printed on page 1016 of our issue of September 30.—Ed.]

The opening ceremony was performed by the President of the South African Pharmacy Board, in the presence of a large number of civic dignitaries and representatives of other professions.

A meeting of the General Council of the Pharmaceutical Society had been called for that week end, and thus Councillors from all over the country were to see the building, some for the first time.

It is truly a notable edifice, comprising seven storeys, and architecturally very modern. It houses, besides the offices of the Society, those of the South Transvaal Branch of the Society and the Pharmaceutical Journal. The lower floor houses the Museum, in which it is hoped to gather items illustrating the history of pharmacy, particularly in Africa.

Great progress had already been made in this direction, and a complete set of Pharmacognosy specimens arranged, as well as many items of profound interest. The Minute Book of the first Pharmaceutical Association in Africa has been preserved and finds an honoured place. A glance through its pages reveals that in those days the problems facing the chemist were just the same—the dispensing doctor, the sale of poisons by all and sundry, and the apathy of the chemists.

It is remarkable to find that the humble plaster iron, wielded by so many of us in our student days, is now a museum piece, and that it is likely to be joined by the cachet machine and the pill machine ere long!

The Curator of the Museum had gathered together a unique collection of drug jars, some of British origin, others of Italian make, dating back to the 15th century and bearing names long forgotten. In this respect it is refreshing to read in my week-end newspaper that a Johannesburg chemist is marketing a remedy for gastric ulcers, which was introduced by the Voortrekkers, pioneers of South Africa.

What was appalling was to hear the constant remark, "Oh, I chuck those things out when I modernised my pharmacy." So is the history of our craft consigned to the dustbin!

On the same floor as the Museum is the Board Room, the walls exhibiting the pictures of the past Presidents of the Society. The Chairs, later to bear silver plates with the names of the Presidents who donated them, were at that time filled by the members of the South African Pharmacy Board, who were currently meeting in Johannesburg. So far there is no Presidential Chair, but doubtless one will be forthcoming.

Below these rooms are the Assembly Hall in which the Council met, and which is acoustically perfect, and the Club Room. The latter, in which visiting pharmacists will be able to relax, is graced by four oil paint-

ings, the work of pharmacists. It seems that at last four pharmacists have learned how to avoid ulcers by wielding the paint brush, and as far as I am able to judge, the results are quite good.

During the Council Meeting, the Executive Committee took the opportunity of investing the President with a newly created badge of office, a truly splendid piece of work. Hitherto the Presidents had joined in functions without any outward and visible sign of the dignity of their office.

During the ceremonies the immediate past President was enabled to present certificates of Life Membership, awarded to the stalwarts of the Society, and the reigning President then presented gavels to the Past Presidents present. It is amazing evidence of their continued interest in the Society and its works that nearly all were present.

Not all the meeting was devoted to ceremonies, however, and some time was given to business. The proposed Amending Bill was discussed and plans made for continuing the battle when Parliament reopens, if, of course, the Bill should reappear on the Agenda. It became apparently clear that the process was going to cost money, and this was one of the few occasions on which your reporter has witnessed pharmacists voluntarily voting for levies and increased subscriptions.

With the monies gathered it should be possible to indulge in a deal of lobbying and to devise adequate ways of publicising what the pharmacist believes to be his right.

There is of course no guarantee that the Government will be even remotely interested in an amending Bill next session, for election year is fast approaching and there will be other fish to fry. The one fact which may ensure its reintroduction is that the proposed Bill contains provisions for the better control of Indian hemp, which is a greater menace than income tax.

The meeting also discussed the continued existence of the Pharmaceutical Trades Council. This Council is made up of representatives of bodies whose interests are in some cases diametrically opposed. A firm marketing a proprietary through many other channels than the retail pharmacist cannot be expected to hold the same views as the retailer.

Yet there are many problems affecting members of the P.T.C. which are common to all and which should be discussed sanely and calmly around a conference table. Not only that, but it is possible for one section to seek explanation of policy from another, and it is remarkable that when such clarification is sought, it becomes evident that the offending party had no idea that he was offending!

But the continuance of such a Council depends upon the existence of sincerity in the hearts of its members, and it cannot be used as a means whereby one section of the trade seeks to gain advantage of the other.

The Society did not arrive at a decision to disband the P.T.C., which continues in existence, and now has a space of time in which it can prove its necessity and show its sincerity.

### Buying Groups Become Wholesalers

In my previous letters to you I have outlined the struggle which has been going on between the wholesalers and the buying groups. The buying groups went out of existence when they converted themselves into wholesalers. One or two of the smaller ones were absorbed by the wholesalers, and others continued in existence, but without the extra discounts which buying groups enjoyed. To the amazement of the pharmaceutical world came the announcement that one of the bigger ex-buying groups had purchased one of the oldest wholesalers in the Union.

Rumour has it that one of the bigger commercial banks is providing the finance, but so far as I know it is only rumour. Many other stories of impending

## JUST ANY CALCIUM PRODUCT WON'T DO!

A pre-requisite for the success of oral calcium therapy is that all the factors essential for the absorption and retention of calcium are taken into account. It has been shown that the absorption and retention of ingested calcium are considerably enhanced by a simultaneous supply of phosphates in an optimal calcium:phosphorus ratio between 0.5 to 1.5 and by the concurrent intake of a suitable mixture of calcium citrate, citric acid and vitamins C and D.

**ALL THE ABOVE PRINCIPLES HAVE BEEN INCORPORATED IN DURACAL.**

### DURACAL

Each Orange Flavoured Tablet Contains

Sodium Diacid Phosphate	100 mg.	Ca. 65 mg.
Calcium Monoacid Phosphate	104 mg.	P. 50 mg.
Calcium Citrate	72 mg.	
Citric Acid		2 mg.
Vitamin C		12.5 mg.
Vitamin D3		500 I.U.

Packages: Bottles of 100 DURACAL Tablets.

### DURACAL-F (WITH FLUORINE)

Each sugar-coated "Tri-Tab" contains

Sodium Diacid Phosphate	30 mg.	Ca. 20 mg.
Calcium Monoacid Phosphate	31 mg.	P. 15.4 mg.
Calcium Citrate	22 mg.	
Citric Acid		1 mg.
Vitamin C		5 mg.
Vitamin D3		200 I.U.
FLUORINE		0.05 mg.

The FLUORINE is contained in the outer sugar coating. For optimal utilisation of the local fluorine action on the teeth DURACAL-F "Tri-Tabs" should be sucked until the sour taste of citric acid is noticed, and then swallowed.

12 Tablets are equivalent in fluorine content to 1 pint of water fluorinated 1 p.p.m.

Packages: Bottles of 100 DURACAL-F "Tri-Tabs."

Clinical samples and literature are freely available to physicians.

**Charles McDonald** PTY. LTD.  
MAKERS OF PHARMACEUTICAL SPECIALTIES  
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

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# Let's talk turkey

If you want to gobble up the baby food business in your neighbourhood, there's one sure way to do it—feature the brand that MOTHERS HAVE LEARNED TO TRUST.

Every month more and more mothers are turning to Australia's biggest selling baby food—Heinz. By stocking the complete range of Heinz Baby Foods, Strained or Junior, you can take advantage of this ever-growing market. Your Heinz Salesman will gladly arrange a Baby Food department for your pharmacy, and will supply you with colourful point-of-sale material designed to increase impulse sales.

Heinz stockists have proved that a well-stocked Baby Food Department means bigger profits. You can prove it, too, in your own pharmacy.

the  
most recommended  
**BABY  
FOODS** 57  
in Australia are  
**HEINZ**

changes in the pharmaceutical world are circulating, but rumour was ever a lying jade.

It will be rather interesting to read the doings of the Pharmaceutical Trades Council when next it meets, for the composition has now somewhat changed. What used to be the principal buying group has now become a dyed-in-the-wool wholesaler. It will be very interesting to learn if the representatives of that firm still advance the same views as hitherto—very interesting!

#### Educational Foundation Mooted

The P.T.C. has so far done very little constructive work. Before them at their last meeting was the proposal to establish a S.A. Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education. I am told that they have postponed discussion until such time as they are better informed about the proposal.

I wonder how much more one needs to know about such a proposal? The idea is crystal clear—education needs finance, and the people to provide this finance are those who draw the most benefits from pharmacy, viz., the retailers, the wholesalers, the manufacturers and the proprietary manufacturers.

The need for finance is also clear. There does not exist in the Union a School of Pharmacy comparable with, say, Bloomsbury Square. Although there are six Schools of Pharmacy in the Union, four Technical Colleges and two Universities, there is not a single Professor of Pharmacy, and not one of those schools is as well equipped as it should be.

It is not possible to produce the best possible graduates unless the best possible equipment and the best possible teachers are forthcoming. And until these things are provided it is not feasible that the best possible pharmaceutical industry can be created. And therein lies the necessity for an Educational Foundation.

#### Pharmacy Board Annual Report

The S.A. Pharmacy Board has recently published its Annual Report, and it makes very interesting reading.

Amongst the many matters dealt with were four cases of unethical conduct. One pharmacist found guilty of permitting a doctor to have a consulting room with direct access to his pharmacy was suspended from practice for a month. Another found that it was not wise to ignore official communications from the Board, because showing such contempt is counted unethical and can bring about erasure from the Register. In this case the penalty was a reprimand.

Statistics are always interesting, and those of the Board fascinating. There are now some 2600 chemists on the Register and some 500 apprentices in training. Since the period of apprenticeship is now two years, it indicates that 250 young men enter pharmacy every year and that 250 leave to enter College. The College course is now three years, and thus there are usually about 750 would-be pharmacists battling the examiners. Of 391 candidates for the intermediate examination 60 passed, 87 were referred and 211 failed. For the qualifying examination there were 236 candidates, and 36 passed and 80 were referred.

Chemistry was as usual the failing subject, with dispensing a good second.

Statistics are not always what they seem, and these figures do not reflect the true state of things. With the old two-year course drawing to its end many a candidate is entering in the hope that he will pass—if he doesn't, before long he'll have to face an entirely new examination.

Apprentices must now study for three years, and it will be interesting to see if the new generation are of a better brand than their fathers. Past experience has shown that, although they may be better qualified technically, they lack the self-reliance and initiative which a long and arduous apprenticeship gave to their "back-number" fathers.

## Trade Notes

#### M. & B. MELBOURNE OFFICE

May & Baker (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., of Sydney, has advised a change of its Melbourne branch office from Carlton to "P.O. Box 41, Footscray, W.11." The new telephone number of the branch office is MM 6142.

#### "RESEDRINE"

Hamilton Laboratories Ltd., of Adelaide, has notified that it has become necessary for the company to rename the product recently introduced as "Serpentine." The new name is "Resedrine," and the product is available in two strengths.

#### MULTIVITE-SIX (TABS. VITAMINORUM P.M.S.)

The British Drug Houses (Australia) Pty. Ltd., of Sydney, advises that the following price reductions took effect as from November 26, 1956:

Bottle of 100	6/-
Bottle of 500	28/-
Bottle of 1000	52/6

#### "ENDAS" PRICES

Sigma Co. Ltd. has notified that incorrect prices were supplied in error as part of the reference to "Endas" Tablets in the New Products section of our October issue.

The correct prices are:

12's	28/-	doz.	Retail 3/6
25's	52/-	doz.	Retail 6/6

#### AMOLIN

Mr. Harold Taylor, of Amolin Laboratories, Sydney, accompanied by his wife, sailed last month on the "Orcades" for a visit to New Zealand. The purpose of his trip was to establish "Amolin" in New Zealand, and after a comprehensive coverage of the pharmaceutical houses in both North and South Islands, Mr. Taylor reports that "Amolin" was very well received, and he hopes to make his product just as widely known among New Zealand chemists as it is among those of the Commonwealth.

#### CHESEBROUGH-POND'S USE TV

Cheesbrough-Pond's will be one of the first cosmetic houses to use TV as an advertising medium. Commenting on this, Mr. Ralph Ward, General Manager for Cheesbrough-Pond's, said he was confident that TV in Australia would achieve the same results as has been achieved in America, where sales of cosmetics and toiletries have soared since people have been able to view the products being used.

The programme will be known as "Cheesbrough-Pond's Playhouse," and will be telecast over T.C.N. Channel 9 in Sydney and H.S.V. Channel 7 in Melbourne each Wednesday night at 8.30. The Playhouse will be a regular weekly half hour feature presenting the pick of television dramatic stars.

The first play was telecast on November 7.

#### POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHRISTMAS MAILS

During the pre-Christmas period the Post Office is required to handle exceptionally heavy mail loads, and the co-operation of the public is sought each year to secure the early posting of gifts and greetings.

The Postal Department states that the success of the "Post Early" campaign can be furthered by the many thousands of people associated with the great variety of business establishments, and it has asked that calen-

dars, catalogues and advertising material be posted as early as possible in December and not later than December 8.

Great assistance would be rendered to the Postal Department if large postings of commercial mail could be separated into bundles for city, suburban, country and interstate destinations, securely tied and handed in at a Post Office counter rather than being placed in the usual posting receptacles.

#### JOHN BLEAKLEY'S RETURN FROM OVERSEAS

Mr. John Bleakley, Managing Director of the Bleakley group of companies, returned to Australia on November 1.



Mr. John Bleakley

Mr. Bleakley has been making one of his regular business trips abroad in order to further cement the relationship between his companies and various overseas principals.

After travelling through the U.S.A., where a number of important manufacturing agencies were tied up with the Bleakley group, he proceeded to the U.K., and then to the Continent to attend the 1956 Photokina.

#### NYAL COMPANY ANNOUNCES CO-SPONSORSHIP OF "TOP-LINE" TV PROGRAMME

Details of the Nyal Company's advertising plans for television were released on November 26 by Nyal General Manager, Mr. N. F. Leggatt.

As a preliminary to the announcement, Mr. Leggatt briefly reviewed the highly successful advertising programme of the post-war years, when consumer purchases of Nyal Products had increased fivefold. The outstanding results from the company's consistent advertising policy had led to the decision to be an inaugural sponsor of a full half-hour television programme.

The programme "Mystery Theatre" is a "top-line" mystery show which is being co-sponsored by the Nyal Company and Scott & Turner (manufacturers of Andrews Liver Salt) in Sydney and Melbourne over the ATN-GTV network.

"Mystery Theatre" is an action-packed mystery adventure of 52 individual episodes dramatising the investigations of Inspector Mark Saber of the Homicide Squad. The role of Saber is played by leading American TV actor Tom Conway.

Regular telecasting of the Nyal Mystery Theatre will commence in Sydney on December 5, 1956 (Channel 7), and in Melbourne on January 24, 1957 (Channel 9), and will continue thereafter every Thursday night from 9 to 9.30 p.m.

#### STERLING DRUG CHAIRMAN VISITS AUSTRALIAN COMPANY

Since 1944, when Frederick Stearns and Company became a division of the world-wide Sterling Drug organisation, the development of the Australian Division has gone ahead by leaps and bounds.

Responsible for the Sterling Drug's far-flung organisation is Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer Mr. James Hill, Jnr., who arrived in Australia on November 12 for a two-week visit. Mr. Hill, who concentrates on planning and policy, is looking to the company's continued world-wide expansion. Mr. Hill joined Sterling Drug in 1939. He was elected President in 1941 and Board Chairman in 1949. Under his direction Sterling sales have risen from \$47 million to \$164 million.

During his visit Mr. Hill met many members of the

pharmaceutical and medical professions, Guild leaders, Government members and banking and business leaders. An extract from one of his many talks indicated the company's confidence in Australia's national development and bright future. He said:

"As a division of Sterling Drug, Stearns and Nyal are backed by the full resources of the vast research programme of the Sterling-Winthrop Research Institute at Rensselaer, New York. This Institute provides the company with probably the finest and most modern facilities for pharmaceutical research and investigation in the United States. Through Frederick Stearns and Company in Australia and New Zealand, new advances in therapeutic and diagnostic medicine developed at the Institute will be marketed."

#### TEXCEL CELLULOSE TAPE

A grand "Back to School" promotion has been planned by Johnson & Johnson Pty. Ltd. on its Texcel Cellulose Tape.

This is in the form of a special pack which contains a colourful counter display unit holding an assortment of Texcel dispensers in the right proportion, to catch extra impulse sales.

This unit shows a profit of 52 per cent. of cost, and as an added incentive it is available for immediate delivery, but may be charged as January 1, 1957.

Chemists are advised to place orders early, to get full benefit from this attractive Texcel "Back to School" offer. This is the first time that such a deal has been available on cellulose tape in Australia, and it is anticipated that stocks will quickly sell out.

#### CENTENARY OF T. J. SMITH & NEPHEW LTD.

This year marks the centenary of T. J. Smith & Nephew Ltd., of Hull, England, the manufacturers of the well-known Elastoplast products and Gypsona Plaster of Paris. The foundations of this famous concern were made when Thomas James Smith commenced business in 1856 in Hull, England, specialising in the importation of high quality cod liver oil from Norway. In 1896 he took his nephew, H. N. Smith, into partnership, and today his nephew is President of the company.

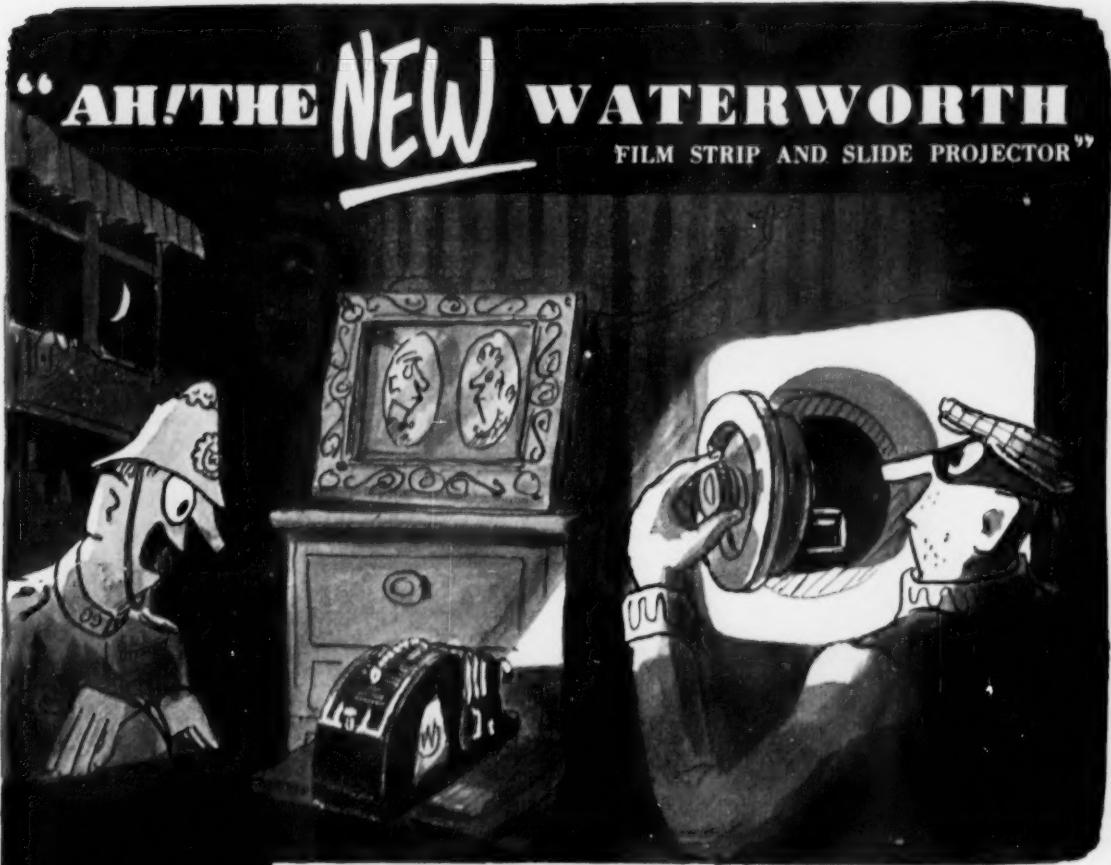
Since then the business has grown to world-wide proportions, and today the Smith & Nephew Group employs over 5000 persons and incorporates more than 15 separate companies. In the United Kingdom the Smith & Nephew Group processes all its own material from raw cotton to the finished product. In addition, other companies within the Group specialise in research, technical development and marketing.

The range of products marketed in England, in addition to the well-known Elastoplast and Gypsona, extend to light clothing, sanitary towels, pharmaceuticals, Nivea Creme, hypodermic equipment and industrial tapes. Many of these are also sold in the extensive overseas markets. It will be seen that the Smith & Nephew Group, as it now exists, has come a long way from the days in 1856 when T. J. Smith commenced business.

To commemorate the centenary a civic function was held recently in the Guildhall, Hull, England, given by the Lord Mayor of this famous old city. This was



"AH! THE NEW WATERWORTH  
FILM STRIP AND SLIDE PROJECTOR"



**"AUSTRALIA'S OWN PROJECTOR"**  
IS AVAILABLE IN MANY MODELS FEATURING:

- ★ Non-spill light grid.
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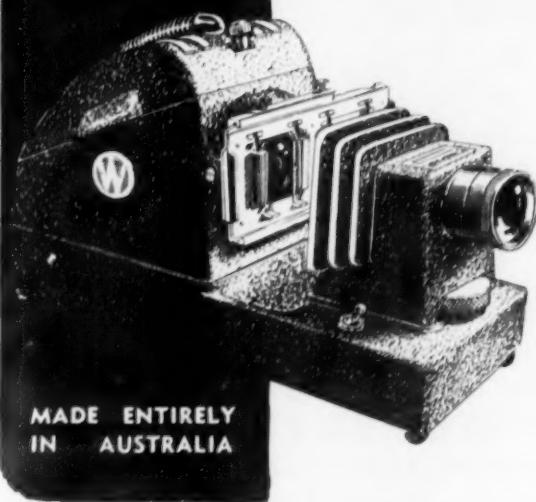
**E. N. WATERWORTH**

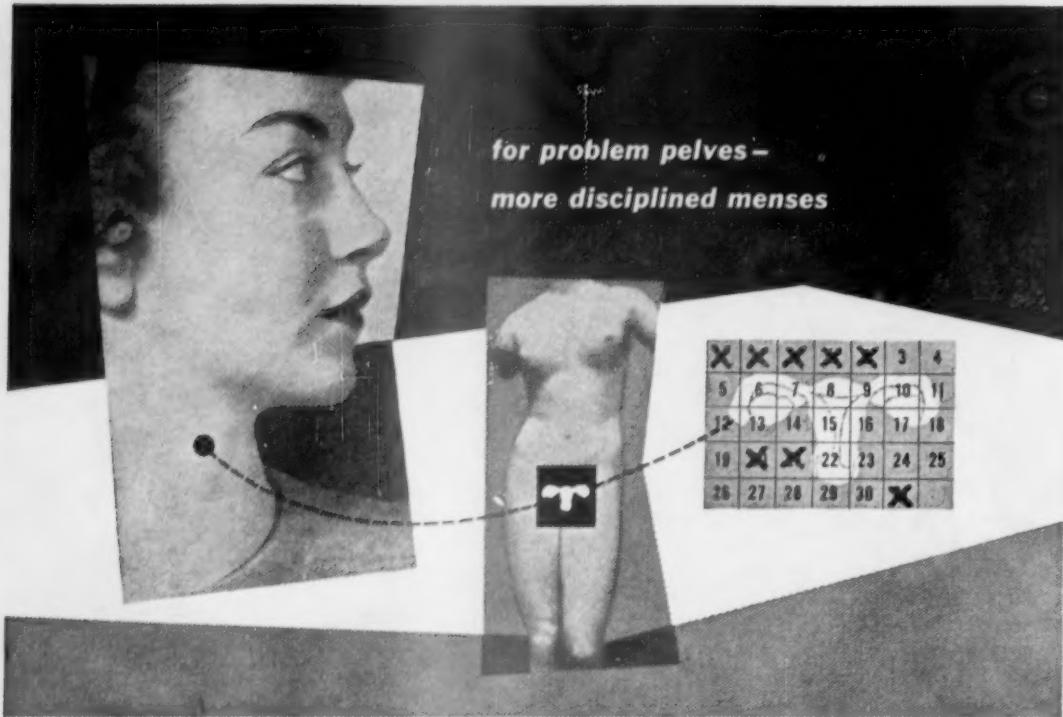
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Dear Sirs.—Please send me details and price list.

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*for problem pelvis—  
more disciplined menses*

X	X	X	X	X	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	X	X	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	X	

## Predictable thyroid therapy

A clear correlation between hypothyroidism and gonadal dysfunction shows "... a more than coincidental relationship between thyroid disease and pelvic disorders. . . ." When you employ thyroid therapy as a "fundamental" in the management of menstrual irregularities in hypothyroids,<sup>9</sup> use Proloid, for therapy that is more predictable.

Virtually pure thyroglobulin, Proloid is assayed both (1) chemically and (2) biologically in test animals to provide constant potency and uniform metabolic effect.

Proloid purity and predictability make it especially valuable for therapeutic tests too. In some puzzling cases, "... even though sharply defined manifestations of

diminished thyroid function are absent,"<sup>10</sup> a therapeutic test is justified. But a test with Proloid is more likely to be definitive —free from therapy-induced ups and downs due to potency variations.

Proloid is prescribed in the same dosage as ordinary thyroid and is available in  $\frac{1}{2}$  and 1 grain tablets.

## Proloid

### Bibliography:

1. Ferrer, P. P., and McGavack, T. H.: Am. J. Surg. 85:67 (Jan.) 1953.
2. Mason, L. W.: West. J. Surg. 55:338 (June) 1947.
3. McGavack, T. H.: The Thyroid, St. Louis, C. V. Mosby Co., 1951.



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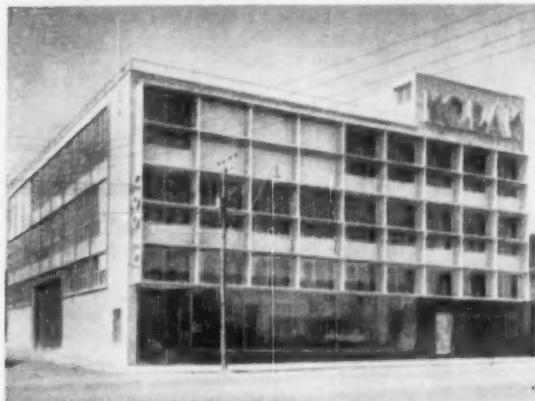
attended by government and medical dignitaries from many parts of England.

In Australia, a subsidiary company, Smith & Nephew (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., was formed in 1951 for the purpose of assisting in the development of the rapidly expanding Australian business.

#### NEW KODAK BUILDING IN ADELAIDE

On October 12, the Premier, Mr. Playford, opened the new building of Kodak (Asia) Pty. Ltd. at 34 North Terrace, Adelaide.

This new building is another step in the company's



New Adelaide Premises of Kodak

plans and affords further proof of its position in the community.

Designed on the very latest lines, the three-storied building has a floor space of 28,000 square feet. The ground floor provides for a retail store, wholesale department, air-conditioned stock and storage room for sensitized materials, technical department and receiving and despatching sections.

Provision is made for trucks to be unloaded inside the building, while modern methods ensure speedy handling of shipments both inwards and outwards.

The first floor houses the administrative offices, camera store and repair departments, together with the amenities block.

The second floor contains the modern photo-finishing laboratories and the despatch section for these departments.

The whole building is of a steel frame structure with large plate-glass windows; these being provided with a glazing grid which ensures sun protection during the hot months.

The company is still retaining the retail store in Rundle street, and the new premises will enable a much better service to its customers.

The opening of the building was quite an event in Adelaide, and "The News," a leading Adelaide newspaper, thought so much of it that it brought out a special supplement to commemorate this event in the city's progress.

#### UPJOHN FORMS AUSTRALIAN SUBSIDIARY

It was announced from Kalamazoo, Mich., U.S.A., recently that a new, wholly owned subsidiary has been established in Australia by The Upjohn Company, one of the leading pharmaceutical manufacturers in U.S.A. The formation of the new unit was announced by Robert S. Jordan, Director of International Operations, and Richard D. Tedrow, head of the International Operations' Legal Department, on their return from Australia.

The company, **The Upjohn Company (Aust.) Pty.**

Limited, is now occupying temporary quarters in Sydney. An 11-acre building site has been purchased in Parramatta, and plans are being drawn for the construction of an Upjohn plant there to house office, manufacturing and warehousing facilities. It is expected that the plant will be ready for occupancy on January 1, 1958.

The new company is the fifth Upjohn international subsidiary. Others now operate in Canada, Mexico, Brazil and Great Britain.

The Upjohn Company (Australia), Mr. Jordan said in a press interview, will be staffed entirely with Australian personnel, with each of the key men invited to company headquarters in U.S.A. for training in Upjohn policies and practices.

Mr. Jordan said that Australia is a large and rapidly growing market area which will soon occupy a dominant position in Australasia, which includes New Zealand, New Guinea, the Philippines, Malaya and other Far Eastern areas. He added that Australia is a land with an "almost unlimited growth potential and represents an exciting challenge and opportunity to develop with the country."

Board of Directors of the new firm include Mr. Jordan, Chairman; R. M. Boudeman, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer; Gordon J. Findlayson; D. B. Willmott; Dr. E. Gifford Upjohn; C. V. Patterson; D. Gordon Knapp; L. D. Harrop; E. H. Coleman; and Tedrow.

#### PRESIDENT OF JOHNSON & JOHNSON INC.

##### Mr. GEORGE FREDERICK SMITH

Mr. George Frederick Smith, President of Johnson & Johnson Inc., who recently visited Australia, has an amazing record both as a businessman and as a good citizen and civic leader.



Mr. George Frederick Smith

During the First World War he served in France and fought with the Diggers. He was discharged in 1919 with the rank of 1st Lieutenant.

Resuming his business career, he joined H. Hollingshead Company, Camden, N.J., eventually being promoted to Vice-President and General Manager. Subsequently he joined Johnson & Johnson, and in 1943 was elected President.

Although his business activities are considerable, he has made very significant contributions to civic and governmental activities.

As Chairman of the Middlesex County Planning Board (1945-1949) he made significant contributions to many forward plans for the County, and has continued to serve as its Honorary Chairman.

He is a member, Board of Directors of Regional Plan Association. In January, 1956, was appointed by Governor Meyner and confirmed by the Senate as a member, State Planning & Development Council.

Upon enactment of the New Jersey Turnpike authorising statute, he was named by Governor Driscollas Vice-Chairman of the Authority in 1949 for a five-year term. In an exceptional devotion to the job of planning, financing and building the "big road," he and his two Commissioner colleagues achieved a result of what is generally credited as the world's safest road, a financial success of stunning proportions and a management based on soundness of business principles being employed to government. He requested retirement four months after having served his term.

In 1955 Governor Meyner asked Mr. Smith again to serve in an important capacity—that of being Chairman of a drive to secure the funds for the N.J. State Safety Council's next three years of operation. The State Safety Council is a unique organisation in New Jersey which devotes its efforts to safety everywhere—on the highways, the home, the schools, on the job, and in fire prevention, and it is the only State group of its type in U.S.A. to be entirely financed by industry, finance and commerce. He again demonstrated his devotion to the job, brought together a group of the State's finest leaders of business to assist, and at this moment, with the campaign still over a month to go, he and his associates have secured pledges for the largest sum yet attained in the Safety Council's history.

Mr. Smith is currently Vice-President and Chairman of the Operating Committee of the Health Information Foundation, a national, non-profit organisation supported by the drug, chemical and allied industries. The Foundation is devoted to seek by research and surveys ways and means whereby the insurance companies and the group plan organisations may have the actuarial data required to extend voluntary insurance coverage to all people and to a more comprehensive extent. It is an organisation dedicated to help free enterprise carry out responsibilities in the field of health.

He is Vice-President and Chairman of the Public Relations Committee of the American Drug Manufacturers' Association which recently, and notably in January, 1956, authorised and underwrote an industry-wide national public relations programme which has been receiving responsive support from virtually all segments of the industry. An assignment to bring to the people facts regarding the great contributions in research and other developments by those on the "health team" to longer life spans and greater comfort for the people.

He is a Trustee, Committee for Economic Development; Trustee, National Fund for Medical Education; Director, American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education; member, Board of Directors, the World Medical Association; member, National Advisory Council of Junior Achievement, Inc.; member, Citizens Advisory Committee of Education (New Jersey); serves on several industry advisory committees, including Army-Navy Munitions Board.

The New Jersey State Constitutional Convention summarised Mr. Smith's activities in a citation awarding him an honorary doctorate degree in law, when they described him as "leader among the enlightened writers of New Jersey's model Constitution."

#### P.A.T.A. OF N.S.W.

Notified 12/11/56.

#### Chemists' Section: Alterations

Size	Retail	Wholesale
Medium	1/11 Ipana Tooth Paste—Regular & Chlorophyll 3 doz. lots	15/3 doz. 14/3 "

	Size	Retail	Wholesale
Large	2/11	Ipana Tooth Paste—Regular & Chlorophyll 3 doz. lots	22/11 " 20/5 "
Economy	3/11	Ipana Tooth Paste—Regular & Chlorophyll 3 doz. lots	30/1 " 27/7 "
		Alfred Lawrence & Co. Ltd.	
½ oz.	5/-	Poulticine	40/- "
1 lb.	8/6	Poulticine	68/- "
2 lb.	14/6	Poulticine	116/- "
5 lb.	28/-	Poulticine	224/- "

#### PRESCRIPTION PROPRIETARIES CARD SERVICE

The 20 cards issued during the month of November, 1956, dealt with the following products:

A: 122	Amidorm
B: 74	Biomydrin Otic
C: 129	Cortelan Acetate
C: 130	Calcipen-Leo
D: 90	Delta-Cortelan
D: 91	Duracal
D: 92	Duracal-F
D: 93	Dilacol
D: 94	Diphebuzol Leo
E: 64	Efcortelan Sterile Solution
E: 65	Efcortelan Nasal Spray
H: 37	Hibitane antiseptic Lozenges
M: 76	Miltown
M: 75	Mevasine Tablets
N: 68	Nasorax
P: 177	Panadol
P: 178	Pernexin-Elixir
S: 98	Siopeel Cream
S: 99	Serpeditrine
V: 50	Pil. Vitaminorum (P.D.)

Subscriptions (£3/3/-) to the P.P. Card Service for 1956 (including Index Book) may be lodged at any time. Renewals or new subscriptions, accompanied by cheque, should be addressed to The Manager, "The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy," 18-22 St. Francis Street, Melbourne.

We have on hand a moderate supply of the cards of 1955 (now reduced to £2/2/- per set) for the assistance of new subscribers who wish to give their library of reference a 12 months' start. We regret the cards of earlier years—1951, 1952, 1953 and 1954—are now out of print.

## Classified Advertisements

The charge for these Advertisements is 3/- per line, with a minimum of 9/-, payable in advance.

**FOR LEASE.**—A Chemist business, Bunbury (W.A.), leading South West Town. TURNOVER £16,000 yearly. LEASE for five years at £15 a week with renewal option. STOCK at valuation approximately £3000;

**ALTERNATIVELY** Sale of Goodwill £2500 plus stock at valuation approximately £3000 and fixtures and fittings £800 subject to valuation under a five-year lease with option at reasonable rental. Replies to: 301156, c/o A.J.P. Office, 18 St. Francis St., Melbourne.

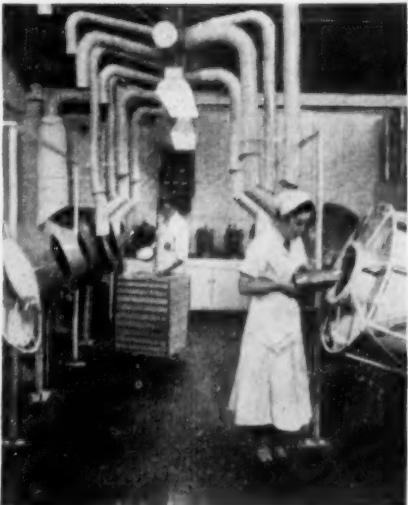
#### BUNDABERG HOSPITAL ASSISTANT DISPENSER

The services of a registered Pharmacist are required for the position of Assistant Dispenser at Bundaberg Hospital, Queensland. Salary from £1058/£1082 p.a., subject to basic wage adjustments. Five-day week of 40 hours. Applicants to state qualifications, marital status, experience, etc. Apply to Secretary, Hospitals Board, Bundaberg, Q.



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# **TRICHOMONIASIS**

## **In the Male and Female**

Clinical investigation has conclusively demonstrated that TRITHEON Tablets administered orally, eradicate trichomonads for culture-proved cure of more than 70 per cent. of female patients whose husbands are treated simultaneously.



**proven ORAL therapy**

TRITHEON Tablets are well tolerated. There has been practically no gastric intolerance, and side effects have been absent or negligible. No effect on the haemogram has been observed.



**Pharmaceutical Company**  
SYDNEY

# Commonwealth and State News

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

### PERSONAL and GENERAL

### State News

Members desiring publication of personal items of interest are invited to write or telephone details to the Journal Correspondent in W.A., Mr. F. W. Avenell (phone BA 4082).

**Mr. R. B. Robinson**, of Boan's Pharmacy, left on November 21 for a three months visit to the eastern States.

**Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Fraser** travelled to Melbourne on the Dunroon to see the Olympic Games. They will also visit Tasmania. Mr. P. Grummet acted as reliever.

Our sympathy is extended to Mr. N. H. Moore and his sister, Mrs. G. H. Dallimore, on the death of their mother.

**Messrs. Graeme Sherry and Malcolm Prichard**, both residents of Bunbury prior to taking the Pharmacy Course, have recently opened new pharmacies in their home town.

On October 24 **Dr. L. P. Gray** gave a very interesting lecture to the Pharmaceutical Society on the Treatment of Atomic Casualties. Unfortunately, the attendance was not up to the usual standard.

Acting on medical advice, **Mr. H. D. Fitch** has sold his pharmacy at Gledden Buildings, Perth. We understand that **Mr. Ian Sinclair** is the purchaser and will take over about December 15.

**Obituary**.—Many of the older generation of pharmacists will regret the passing of **Mr. O. G. Kruger** on October 21. The late Mr. Kruger was for many years an examiner for the Pharmaceutical Council and carried on business at Hay street, Perth.

**Pharmaceutical Society Special Meeting**.—At the request of the requisite number of members, a special general meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society was held on October 19 to protest against a member opening a pharmacy in a departmental store. Resolutions were carried recommending the Council to investigate the possibility of legislating to prevent any further action of this nature.

### AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC HOCKEY TEAM

**Mr. Ian Dick**, of Applecross, is the captain of the Australian hockey team now competing at the Olympic Games in Melbourne.

Ian was born at Boulder in 1926 and came to South Perth as a baby. He was educated at Perth School and Wesley College, where he became champion athlete in his year. He has played first grade cricket with South Perth team, scoring over 5000 runs in 10 seasons.

Ian has played for the State hockey team since leaving college. On two occasions he acted as vice-captain



Mr. Ian Dick

of the Australian team visiting New Zealand, and he also captained Australia against New Zealand when they played in Australia.

In pharmacy, he was apprenticed to the late Mr. L. O. Sargent and qualified in 1949. After doing some relieving work, he opened his present pharmacy at Applecross in 1953.

### AMENDMENT OF FRIENDLY SOCIETIES ACT

By 14 votes to 11 the Western Australian Legislative Council rejected an amendment to the Friendly Societies Act Amending Bill. The Bill gives the seven Friendly Societies dispensaries in Western Australia the right to trade openly with the public. The amendment which was defeated had sought to "peg" the dispensaries to their existing numbers. The Bill was passed by the Legislative Council and transmitted to the Legislative Assembly.

The Hawke Labour Government had taken the unusual course of introducing the "open-trading" Bill in the Legislative Council, where it had reason to count on the support of several Country Party members who held the balance of power in that Chamber.

It was then expected that, since the Labour Government had a majority in the Legislative Assembly, the Bill would be passed without difficulty.

When the debate on the measure was resumed in the Legislative Council on October 30, the Hon. E. M. Davies said the Bill was introduced to amend the principal Act in one respect only; that was, to permit the Friendly Society dispensaries to trade with the general public.

Friendly Societies had been pioneers in social services. For a weekly contribution it was possible for a Friendly Society member to receive medical attention and medicines.

Friendly Society dispensaries in the past had been permitted to supply only their own members, one of the reasons being that they were not taxable under the Income Tax Assessment Act. Dispensaries in Western Australia had now been brought under the Income Tax Assessment Act and were required to pay taxation. He believed the Bill was justified, because there was no reason why the dispensaries should not be allowed to trade in the same way as chemists. It would not cause unfair trading, and he did not think any objection could be taken. The dispensaries were fulfilling a requirement for all districts in which they were situated. There was not a great number of them.

The Hon. H. K. Watson said this was an occasion on which they regretted the absence of Sir Frank Gibson and the late Hon. Bob Boylen (pharmaceutical chemists).

The dispensing of medicine and practice of pharmacy generally were governed by the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, the whole idea of which was to enforce rigidly a high standard of professional ability and conduct and also to police strictly the operations in the interest of the general public.

The whole purpose of the Act was to maintain the professional status of chemists and to aim at the ownership of chemists' shops only by individual highly qualified chemists.

There were 248 chemists operating in Western Australia; 170 were in the metropolitan area and 78 were scattered throughout the rural districts.

The economic standing of the individual chemist in Western Australia was not all that could be desired.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA—Continued

Before the introduction of the National Health Scheme the profession was one of the poorest paid in the State. The fact remained that in Western Australia the economic stability of individual chemists was not nearly as sound or as substantial as it was in the eastern States. There were fewer people per pharmacy than in the eastern States.

The Bill before the House could adversely influence the attraction of young men to pharmacy, if the only aim they could see to their training was employment as a paid officer of a Friendly Society.

Mr. Watson said that many years ago the Friendly Societies had contracts with chemists to dispense medicines for their members at a discount.

Dispensaries had sprung up in thickly populated parts of the metropolitan area. It seemed to him that in these places the public was more than well served by private chemists and there was hardly any need to extend the operations of Friendly Societies in those areas.

The Friendly Society dispensaries had a very wide scope today. They dispensed medicines for their own members and for the general public in addition to their own members in respect to all medicines under the National Health Act.

He thought it was within the bounds of possibility that, if the Bill were passed, they would find springing up within the metropolitan area a chain of pharmacies conducted by Friendly Societies in the thickly populated areas. That, he suggested, would be contrary to the whole principle of the Pharmacy Act, and he did not look forward to the prospect of a Royal Commission or inquiry into chemist shops, such as they recently had in W.A. in respect to service stations.

Debate of the Bill was adjourned on the motion of the Hon. J. G. Hislop.

Debate on the Bill was continued in the Legislative Council on October 31.

The first speaker was the Hon. G. C. MacKinnon, who said that in an endeavour to assess the Bill he visited a Friendly Society dispensary in a suburb. It was a shop very much like any other chemist shop, and sold the same kind of goods with articles varying from cordials for making fruit drinks to soaps, tooth powders, toilet requisites, medical supplies and beauty aids.

There were no checks or tests to indicate whether a purchaser was entitled to shop there or not. The only restriction was in relation to the dispensing of private prescriptions which did not come under the National Health Scheme.

The basis for approval of a Bill like this would be that members of Friendly Societies were suffering a disability due to the legal restrictions at present imposed. Furthermore, there did not seem to be any hint or suggestion that the general public would derive any advantage from an extension of trading on the part of the establishment.

There was at present a scheme operating in Western Australia whereby chemists extended to lodge members a discount on their prescriptions and to other goods purchased. He understood it was 15 per cent.

There was another aspect to which he referred. Members were aware that the purpose of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act was to ensure that chain chemist shops did not become part and parcel of the commercial life of the State; in other words, a dispensing chemist shop should be under the direct supervision of a qualified pharmaceutical chemist, who would be allowed one branch.

In effect, there was no difference between a chain of chemist shops and 10 men banding together in the

form of a Friendly Society and opening a chain of such shops.

In Western Australia they had been extremely fortunate in the standard of their pharmacies. One reason was that the chemists were subject to the Pharmaceutical Guild to which the Commonwealth had given disciplinary powers. The Guild had statutory power to fine chemists to a maximum of £100. Such action had in fact been taken not long ago in Western Australia. Chemists, dispensing under the Friendly Societies Act, would not come within the authority of the Guild.

There were many towns and districts in Western Australia which could do with capable, well-set-up pharmacies, but the tendency of the Friendly Societies was to open only where there was a density of population. There was little likelihood of them going to outlying areas and doing what might be termed pioneering work in the pharmaceutical dispensing field.

Many chemists did go to such places. He did not think the case for the improvement of the lot of the general public had been proved by anyone speaking in favour of the measure.

When shops in eastern States were given open trading without pegging they tended to develop into a chain of shops.

The Hon. J. McI. Thomson said first he was impressed with the necessity of defeating the Bill, because he did not want to support legislation which would make it difficult in future to have chemists trained. He did not like to see any legislation which would detrimentally affect the number of young men entering the profession.

He had, however, given the matter a lot of consideration, and on reflection did not think they need worry about what had happened in the eastern States. Legislation in Western Australia protected the position to a greater extent than elsewhere. Mr. Thomson then quoted Subsection (1) of Section 44 of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act to support his view.

This Subsection, he said, convinced him that the Act at present provided that there should be no extension of the six businesses now operating under the Friendly Societies Act, either in the metropolitan or country areas.

After further debate the question was put and the Bill read a second time.

In Committee, the Hon. H. K. Watson moved the following amendment:

That all the words after the word "Act" in line 18, page 2, be struck out and the following inserted in lieu:

shall be deemed to preclude a registered society which, at the thirty-first day of October, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-six, was carrying on a dispensary for the purposes of dispensing medicines in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (2) of section seven of this Act, from dispensing medicines to any member of the general public at its then existing dispensary.

He said there was nothing in this amendment that precluded the main objective of the Bill being realised.

The House had been assured that the six or seven existing Friendly Societies had no intention of branching out into chain stores. That being so, he suggested there could be no valid objection to making the enabling Act say so expressly.

The Chief Secretary (the Hon. G. Fraser) said he hoped the Committee would not agree to the amendment. They should not hamstring the dispensaries, but let them deal with the public as they thought necessary to fulfil the requirements of their customers. He could not see these people launching out to any great extent, except as it might assist them in the provision of goods allied to medicine.



Every denture-user who enters your pharmacy is a prospective buyer of a SAMSON Denture brush. The SAMSON, with its scientific 3-way design and tartar-removing tip, cleans dentures as no ordinary toothbrush could do.

**DISPLAY THE SAMSON DENTURE BRUSH  
PROMINENTLY and PERMANENTLY.**

Place it where the purchaser has only to say 'I'll have one of those, please,' to obviate embarrassing requests or explanations.



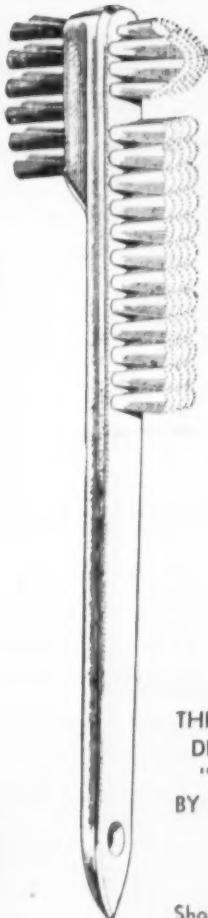
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THE SAMSON PATENT  
DENTURE BRUSH IS  
"CHEMIST ONLY"  
BY GUILD CONTRACT

Show — and SELL — the  
SAMSON all the time.



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# \*SUBLINGS TESTOSTERONE

10 mg.

*For transmucosal administration  
of pure TESTOSTERONE B.P.*

Each Subling Testosterone  
is stamped "Subling T" to  
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\* These must not be swallowed but  
must be absorbed by the sublabial  
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*Available in bottles of 25 and 100.*



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## WESTERN AUSTRALIA—Continued

The Hon. C. H. Simpson said some aspects of the amendment were worth while. The present system had worked well and had produced an ample supply of chemists.

The pharmaceutical profession, more than any other, provided openings for young men who wished to make careers for themselves. There has been no conflict or ill-feeling between the pharmacies and the private shops, but there could be other aspects which might develop to upset that desirable state of affairs.

In some States—and in South Australia particularly—where a similar Bill was passed, it had the effect of creating a number of shops. When the attention of the Premier was drawn to the growth of the extra chemist shops in a short time, he took the same step that had already been taken in New South Wales and pegged the number of the shops as at that time. The amendment would stabilise the position and give a status to the chemist shops in existence. It would give those who had started in business a sense of stability.

After further debate the amendment was put and was lost by a majority of three votes.

After a further minor amendment was put and negatived the Bill was reported without amendment.

### LATE NEWS

As we go to press, we have received the gratifying news that the Legislative Assembly, W.A., has agreed to an amendment pegging the dispensaries to their existing numbers (six and one branch), as sought by the Guild.

### THE GUILD

### S.B.C. Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the Western Australian Branch of the Guild met at 190 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, on November 15, at 7.30 p.m.

**Present.**—Messrs. G. D. Allan (chair), R. J. Healy, M. H. Arnold, S. J. Wilson, R. D. Edinger, R. I. Cohen, W. G. Lewis, G. H. Dallimore, D. G. White, R. W. Dalby, J. G. Skeahan, and members as per attendance sheet.

**Heinz Baby Foods.**—The President reported that this matter was discussed at the Federal Council meeting.

**Country Chemists' Convention.**—Resolved that in view of the high percentage of chemists who intimated their intention of attending the conference, to be held in Perth on March 4, 1957, that the conference be arranged and that the following be elected as sub-committee to attend to same, namely Messrs. Allan, Dalby, Hands, Edinger and Hallo.

Moved and seconded that the first meeting be held on Monday, December 10, 1956, at 8 p.m.

**Western Mining Corporation Medical Scheme.**—Resolved that the Executive study the position and advise Mr. T. J. McManus accordingly.

**Financial.**—The Treasurer (Mr. R. W. Dalby) presented the Treasurer's Report, and in doing so drew attention to an amount appearing in the accounts for payment, representing the down payment on the purchase of a building at 61 Adelaide Terrace, Perth. The building was being purchased by The Federated Pharmaceutical Service Guild of Australia.—The accounts as tabled were passed for payment.

**New Members Elected.**—Messrs. P. V. Hughes, Cunderdin; V. W. Fountain, Geraldton; G. F. Foley, Rockingham; and M. K. Prichard, Bunbury.

**Reinstatement.**—Robert McAlpine Walker.

**Friendly Societies Open Trading Act.**—A comprehensive report setting out the action taken by the Guild to oppose this Act was circularised to all members on November 9.

**Trade and Commerce.**—Mr. Wilson, chairman of the T. & C. Committee, presented his report. A recommen-

dation that an amount of £9/11/6 be made available for the purchase of blocks for new labels for "Gilseal" Household Packs was adopted.

**Pricing Officers' Report.**—The retail price list is in the course of being dissected with a view to the production of a local edition. The local publishers have been contacted and negotiations are in progress, the production to be a loose leaf type, with fortnightly alteration sheets.

**Federal Council Report.**—The President gave a brief summary of the business dealt with at the Federal Council meeting.

**Vacancy on the State Branch Committee.**—Mr. R. J. Healy was unanimously elected to the Committee to fill the vacancy occasioned by Mr. Shearer's retirement.

**Honorary Membership.**—Resolved unanimously that Mr. Harry Fitch be elected an Honorary Member and that a letter of appreciation of his services to pharmacy be forwarded to him.

**Parking Area.**—Resolved that a letter be sent to the Minister for Transport requesting that a special area be reserved in front of the wholesale drug houses for the parking of chemists' cars, when calling to make urgent purchases.

**W.A. Dispensing Fees.**—Resolved that the W.A. dispensing fees and container costs be published in the next edition of the Drug Dispensing Tariff.

The meeting closed at 11.30 p.m.

## COMMONWEALTH

### PERSONAL and GENERAL

### ASSISTANCE TO WIDOWS OR DEPENDANTS OF CHEMISTS

#### P.D.L. Service Available in All States

Arrangements have been completed recently by Pharmaceutical Defence Ltd., whereby a new service will become a posthumous benefit of membership, that is to say, the widow of a member will be furnished immediately on the death of her husband with a clear statement of matters that call for urgent attention. She will be informed that the experience and advice of the P.D.L. Directors and local Board members are available on any aspect of the pharmacy section of the estate. For instance, should she wish to have advice on the fairness of any offer received for the purchase of the pharmacy, the P.D.L. Directors are prepared to assist her in that respect.

Following more recent consideration of the scope of this service, the Directors have decided to extend it to include (a) the dependants of the deceased, or (b) his executor (in the event of the widow not being named as executor), as being entitled to the same service as the widow where special circumstances warrant that extension.

The general proposals were outlined at the conference of P.D.L. Boards on May 23, when the representatives of all States were unanimous in expressing their support. Draft material has been in the possession of the P.D.L. branch offices for some weeks past, because some adaptation will be needed to meet the special conditions that apply in each State.

# TASMANIA

## PERSONAL and GENERAL

## State News

Members desiring publication of personal items of interest are invited to write or telephone details to the Journal Correspondent in Tasmania, Miss M. L. Williams, 276 Argyle St., North Hobart (phone B 1010).

**Mr. John Kaufman** has recently had a short trip to Melbourne.

**Mr. Keith Jenkins** is having a holiday in Queensland, and possibly returning via Sydney.

**Olympic Games.**—Among the lucky folk able to visit Melbourne for the Olympic Games are **Mr. Jack Beaumont** and **Mr. Jack Kippax**, of Hobart, and **Mr. P. F. Holmes**, of Launceston.

Welcome back home to **Miss Marjorie Andrews** after her stay in Suva, Fiji. How we all envy you your trips to other countries, but nevertheless we look forward to hearing and "seeing" something of your experiences. By the way, Marj, how long are you staying this time?

A highlight of the pharmacy year was the **Guild Dinner**, held on Show Night at The Beltana Hotel, when quite a good number of the Guild members and their wives gathered for a most informal and jovial dinner, with Mr. and Mrs. George Fleming as our host and hostess. The stage seems to have missed quite a lot of talent when some brilliant tenors, soprano and bass voices joined pharmacy, to say nothing of a rival to Fred Astaire.

**Greetings.**—With everyone getting ready for a super Christmas selling season, "news" is almost unobtainable, but we would like to wish everyone the compliments of the season and the very best for the coming New Year.

## VISIT BY MR. N. C. MANNING

The Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania recently had the pleasure of welcoming Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Manning to Hobart and Launceston. The visit was made possible by the generous help of Boots Pure Drug Co. (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., which donated air travel and hotel accommodation.

At Hobart, Mr. Manning gave two lectures on various aspects of the A.P.F., 1955. Some 106 pharmacists and apprentices attended these lectures, and were well rewarded by hearing of the latest developments in pharmacy on a publication which could well become an official pharmacopoeia.

Mr. Manning dealt with the compilation of the A.P.F.; new monographs, creams, eye drops, and in fact as much as was possible in the available time. At the conclusion of each lecture questions were answered on a variety of pharmaceutical problems.

At Launceston on October 3 the Northern Branch of the Society met at "The Lounge" to hear Mr. Manning's third lecture. Some 36 pharmacists and apprentices attended, and it was learnt that some members came over 100 miles to be there. Mr. Manning again gave an inspiring talk and answered many questions pertaining to the A.P.F. and general every-day problems. At the conclusion supper was served.

The Society wishes to express its thanks to Mr. Manning for his help in furthering the interest of pharmacy in Tasmania. It is hoped his visit will be the forerunner of many more.

## PHARMACY BOARD

## Monthly Meeting

The Pharmacy Board of Tasmania met at 85 Elizabeth street, Hobart, on November 14, at 8 p.m.

**Present.**—Mr. F. H. Cartledge (Chairman), Miss M. L. Williams, Messrs. H. H. Pearce, A. G. Gould, I. B. McLeod, E. H. Shield and the Registrar.

**Pharmaceutical Register.**—Miss I. R. Brand, certificate of identity and certified photograph were received from the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

Mrs. E. J. Howlett (nee Strang), certificate of identity and certified photograph were received from the Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

Mr. I. M. Park, certificate of identity and certified photograph were received from the Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

**Apprentices.**—Satyanand Nakayan: Application for admission to the Pharmacy Course in Tasmania was received and had been submitted to Dr. Burgin for consideration. The meeting decided that his Senior Cambridge Certificate would entitle him to admission to the full course and apprenticeship.

P. Prasad: Further details regarding the subjects passed in his Senior School Leaving Certificate were received, and following advice from Dr. Burgin, the meeting approved that he would be admitted to the full Pharmacy Course and apprenticeship, and that he should gain his Matriculation Physics, Chemistry and Biology through a Tasmanian School.

Margaret A. Harris: The term of apprenticeship having been satisfactorily completed, the meeting approved the completion of Indentures.

Balraj Banfal to E. H. Shield: Indentures were presented and registration was approved.

**Financial.**—Accounts totalling £94/1/4 were passed for payment.

**Returning Officer.**—Mr. E. H. Shield was appointed Returning Officer if an election becomes necessary in January next.

The meeting closed at 9 p.m.

## PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

## Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania met at 85 Elizabeth street, Hobart, on November 12, at 6.15 p.m.

**Present.**—Mr. E. H. Shield (Chairman), Miss M. E. Purdon, Messrs. C. A. Robertson, B. J. Shirrefs, A. P. Brammall and the Secretary.

**Mr. N. C. Manning's Visit.**—Mr. Shield reported that the lectures given by Mr. N. C. Manning on the A.P.F. had proved to be of great interest and value to all who attended, both in Hobart and Launceston. Members expressed their appreciation for the time and trouble which Mr. Manning had taken in presenting these addresses.

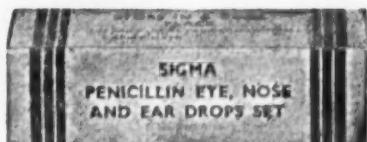
Members also recorded their appreciation for the organising which Mr. Shield had undertaken to make the visit a success.

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## TASMANIA—Continued

**Civil Defence.**—A letter was received from the Director General of Medical Services, expressing appreciation for our offer of co-operation in Civil Defence plans, and stating that the matter was on a Commonwealth basis and the services of our members would be enlisted if and when the time comes.

"**Australasian Journal of Pharmacy**"—A letter was received through Mr. Jenkins from Mr. Norman C. Cossar, the new Chairman of the Journal, expressing his desire to continue the high standard of the Journal, and requesting co-operation from all concerned.

**Certificates.**—Mr. Shield suggested that membership certificates of the Society should be issued to all members.

After discussing this matter the meeting decided that it should be further considered at the next General Meeting.

The meeting closed at 6.45 p.m.

### THE GUILD

### S.B.C. Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the Tasmanian Branch of the Guild met at 73 Liverpool street, Hobart, on November 1, at 8 p.m.

**Present.**—Mr. G. M. Fleming (President), Messrs. D. R. Crisp, A. G. Gould, K. H. Jenkins, C. A. Robertson, A. G. Crane and E. H. Shield.

In the absence of the Secretary, Mr. Crisp was appointed minutes secretary.

**Federal Council Report.**—The Federal Delegate (Mr. Crisp) reported on the Annual Meeting of the Federal Council, mentioning increase in number of Federal Executive and other matters dealt with.

At the conclusion of the report the President thanked the Federal delegate for an interesting report.

**Karilac.**—A letter was received from Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Launceston, requesting a revision of the price structure of Karilac. After discussion, it was decided to forward a copy of the letter to Federal Office and to inform Pharmaceuticals Ltd. that Karilac is a P.A.T.A. line and that this State Branch Committee has no say in the matter of the price structure.

**General Meetings.**—In view of the poor attendance at general meetings it was decided that in future these meetings be held once a quarter, i.e. three general meetings and one annual general meeting each year. Such meetings to feature a particular subject and be in the nature of an open forum. Details to be left to Executive Committee.

**Container Prices.**—It was decided to revise the container prices so as to conform to the P.P.B. Schedule of prices.

**Boyer Agreement.**—A letter was received from the A.N.M. Social Services Committee intimating that this agreement would cease to have effect from 31/12/56.

The President stated that he had discussed the matter with the Federal Secretary, who had written giving certain advice on the fresh proposals submitted by A.N.M. to the Guild.

It was decided that a letter be sent to A.N.M. based on the Federal Secretary's advice, but to agree to meet their Social Service Committee if it is thought any useful purpose can be served.

**Merchandising.**—A letter was received from Mr. C. B. Watson, of the Guild Merchandising Service, giving allocation of Merchandising Months for 1957.

The meeting closed at 11.35 p.m.

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# NEW SOUTH WALES

## PERSONAL and GENERAL

## State News

Members desiring publication of personal items of interest are invited to write or telephone details to the Journal Correspondent in N.S.W. Phone BU 3092.

The prime purpose of eloquence is to keep other people from speaking.

—Louis Verneuil.

**Mr. T. E. Hanley** is the new owner of the pharmacy at 12 Balmoral road, Mortdale Heights.

**Mr. P. R. Kerr** has opened a pharmacy in Appin road, Appin.

**Mr. D. G. Anderson** has purchased the Revesby Pharmacy, Marco avenue, Revesby.

**Mr. F. E. Bignell** is in business at 17 Ida street, Charlestown.

**Mr. Max Owens** is opening a pharmacy at 32B Johns street, Lidcombe.

**Mrs. M. A. E. Davis** has purchased Mr. C. S. Skafte's pharmacy in Waldron road, Chester Hill.

**Mr. Saxon Sorensen** has opened a pharmacy at 79 Hillcrest avenue, Hurstville.

**Mr. J. D. Gerondis** is constructing a pharmacy at 3 Bronte road, Bondi Junction. Mr. Gerondis was formerly in business at Lower Hutt, Wellington, N.Z.

## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Woman Pharmaceutical Chemists will hold their Annual Christmas Party at "Glen Ascham" this year on Tuesday, December 18. Tickets inclusive £2.

## ASSOCIATE PROFESSORSHIP FOR DR. S. E. WRIGHT

It is reported that Dr. S. E. Wright, Senior Lecturer in Pharmacy in the University of Sydney, has been appointed Associate Professor of Pharmacy.

Dr. Wright's many friends will be extremely pleased to hear of his appointment.

## OVERSEAS LEADERS VISIT AUSTRALIA

Representatives of official Pharmacy were the guests of Mr. W. H. Northam on November 9 at the Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron, Peel street, Kirribilli, to meet Mr. George F. Smith, President of Johnson & Johnson Inc., U.S.A., and Mr. John F. Brooke, Managing Director of Johnson & Johnson Ltd., Great Britain.

Representatives of official Pharmacy attended a dinner in the Kent Room, Hotel Australia, Sydney, on November 16 to meet Mr. James Hill, Jnr., Chairman of the Board of Sterling Drug Inc., New York, who is paying a brief visit to Australia.

## OFFICIAL OPENING OF MEDICAL DISTRIBUTING CENTRE

The Medical Distributing Centre of D.H.A. (N.S.W.) Pty. Ltd. was officially opened by the Premier of N.S.W., The Hon. J. J. Cahill, on October 17 at 3 p.m.

The centre is a most modern and well designed building situated at 800 Princes highway, Tempe.

The N.S.W. Branch of the Guild was represented at the opening by the Vice-President, Mr. W. F. Pineraua, in the absence of the President, Mr. L. W. Smith, who was attending the Guild Federal Council Meeting in Melbourne. The Pharmaceutical Society of N.S.W. was represented by the President, Mr. B. G. Fegent.

## TETRACYCIN PRESCRIPTIONS BRING FINE

A Herne Bay doctor was fined a nominal total of £6, with £6/3/- costs, in the Court of Petty Sessions, Commonwealth Bank Building, on October 29 on four charges of having written a prescription for persons not entitled to receive pharmaceutical benefits.

The doctor, Dr. John Gardner McGlashan, of the Herne Bay Housing Settlement, pleaded guilty.

Mr. L. E. D. Campbell, Department of Health officer, said that Dr. McGlashan had prescribed tetracycine to patients suffering from possible hepatitis. There was no dishonesty attached to the offence, and Dr. McGlashan had derived no financial benefit from the offence.

Mr. J. F. Nagle, for defendant, said that Dr. McGlashan had been faced with a difficult problem at Herne Bay, where a large population lived in congested, poor conditions. There was always the possibility of an epidemic.

Dr. McGlashan had prescribed the drug because he thought there was a chance of an outbreak of dysentery.

Mr. J. Braund, for the Crown, said that tetracycine, prescribed by Dr. McGlashan, could only become free medicine if prescribed for "any disease specified in common relation with aureomycin."

Mr. M. J. McCauley, S.M., said there was a complete lack of dishonesty or ulterior motive. Dr. McGlashan's integrity had not been "besmirched" and he intended to apply only a nominal penalty.

## A.P.F. OFFICIAL FORMULARY IN N.S.W. PUBLIC HOSPITALS

Recently the Hospitals Commission of New South Wales circularised all public hospitals in the State recommending that they put the A.P.F. into use as their Pharmacopoeia—"thereby contributing towards the standardisation of the prescribing of medicines and other preparations for administration to patients."

The Commission advised hospitals that through the courtesy of the Pharmaceutical Society of N.S.W. each hospital would receive from the Society with its compliments a gratuitous copy of the A.P.F., further copies being available at a reduced cost.

The Commission expressed the opinion that the A.P.F. could with advantage be adopted by all hospitals irrespective of size. Where in any instance the larger hospitals needed some further formulary for special clinics or departments conducted by them, they could publish a supplementary list containing special formulae and thus save considerably in printing costs.

Following the issue of the circular by the Commission; as arranged, the Pharmaceutical Society of N.S.W. despatched to nearly 300 hospitals a complimentary copy of the A.P.F. together with the following letter:-

"As you will have seen from Circular No. 1021, the Hospitals Commission of New South Wales recommends that hospitals put the "Australian Pharmaceutical Formulary" into use as a Pharmacopoeia.

In accordance with arrangements made with the Commission, it is our pleasure to post you one copy of the "A.P.F." gratis. Further copies may be obtained at cost price (10/-).

The current edition of the "A.P.F." is an entirely new production, containing the most modern formulae, with notes on their application.

We regard the action of the Hospitals Commission in recommending the "A.P.F." as most desirable in all respects, and are happy to do what we can to make the Formulary readily available to the hospitals of New South Wales."

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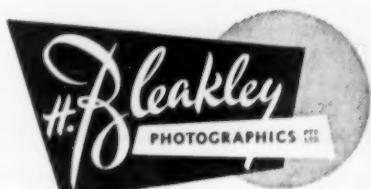
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## NEW SOUTH WALES—Continued

### APPLICATION OF PART VI OF THE POLICE OFFENCES (AMENDMENT) ACT TO LEVORPHAN RACEMORPHAN, LEVOMETHORPHAN AND RACEMETHORPHAN.

By Proclamation published in the Government Gazette of 24th April, 1952, and 5th June, 1953, respectively, Part VI of the Police Offences (Amendment) Act was applied to the undermentioned drugs:—

"Dromoran (also known as Methorphan) (3-hydroxy-N-methyl Morphinan), its salts and any preparation, admixture, extract or other substance containing not less than one-fifth per centum of Dromoran."

"Methorphan (3-Methoxy-N-Methylmorphinan) its salts and any preparations, admixture, extract or other substance containing not less than one-fifth per centum of Methorphan."

Recently, it came under notice that each of these compounds could be obtained in three isomeric forms, the dextra-, laevo- and racemic forms. From inquiries made it has been established that in both compounds it is the laevo and racemic forms that are addiction drugs and that in both compounds the dextro form has exhibited no addiction liability. It has, therefore, been decided to lift control under the Police Offences (Amendment) Act so far as the dextro isomers are concerned.

It will be seen from the attached copy of a Proclamation that the previous proclamations relating to Dromoran and Methorphan are being repealed and that Part VI of the Act is to be applied to Levorphan, Racemorphan, Levomethorphan and Racemethorphan.

It is proposed to publish this Proclamation in the issue of the Government Gazette on Friday, November 30, 1956.

### CHEMISTS (STATE) AWARD Basic Wage Adjustment

Effective from the commencement of the first complete pay period in November, 1956.

#### Managers

Up to 4 assistants . . . . .	£21 9 0
5 to 9 assistants . . . . .	22 4 0
10 assistants or more . . . . .	23 4 0

#### Relieving Managers

Rates per hour: One-fortieth of weekly rate prescribed for appropriate classification plus 10 per cent.

Chief Assistant . . . . .	£20 14 0
Registered Assistant . . . . .	20 4 0

#### Relievers

11.1-12.40 per hour—minimum payment four hours.

Shop Assistants	Male	Female
Under 16 years of age . . . . .	£5 9 5	£5 9 5
At 16 years of age . . . . .	7 0 8	6 10 3
At 17 years of age . . . . .	8 14 6	7 11 1
At 18 years of age . . . . .	10 11 0	8 8 9
At 19 years of age . . . . .	12 18 11	9 9 7
At 20 years of age . . . . .	14 7 0	10 5 3
At 21 years of age . . . . .	15 12 0	11 3 6
At 22 years of age . . . . .	16 12 0	12 3 6

#### Casuals

Shop Assistants	Male	Female
21 years and over . . . . .	9 4-1/20	6 10-8/40
Under 21 years . . . . .	7.3-17/40	5.4

(Minimum payment—four hours)

(Shop Assistants carrying out dispensing under supervision shall be paid 30/- per week in addition to their ordinary pay.)

#### University Students

8.3-3/10 per hour. Minimum payment 15 hours per week.

#### Apprenticeship Award

First Year . . . . .	£3 9 0
Second Year . . . . .	4 16 8
Third Year . . . . .	6 6 4
Fourth Year . . . . .	6 19 1

### DOCTOR'S TERM OF SUSPENSION CUT TO 16 WEEKS

Mr. Justice Clemens on November 7 reduced Dr. Frank William Fowler's suspension from writing free medical prescriptions from 12 months to 16 weeks.

The period of suspension, which was imposed by the Federal Minister for Health following a recommendation by the Medical Committee of Inquiry, will expire on November 9.

The Committee had inquired into charges that Dr. Fowler was contravening regulations under the National Health Act by prescribing expensive where less expensive antibiotic drugs were prescribed under the Act.

Dr. Fowler appealed to the Supreme Court against the Minister's decision.

Mr. Justice McClemens said there was no substance in the claim that either before the Committee of Inquiry or the appeal was Dr. Fowler privileged from the production of records or the giving of evidence involving the names of patients and their ailments, and there was no legal justification for any claim of secrecy that he made either under the Act or by reason of the application of Common Law principles.

"It is of the utmost importance that the Commonwealth have power to police the Act," his Honour said. "Unless this scheme is going to be utterly destroyed, some rational method of examination of prescriptions is essential, and in my view there was no justification in law for the attitude which Dr. Fowler adopted."

Mr. Justice McClemens said there was not a scintilla of criticism of the way in which the Committee dealt with the case.

Dr. Fowler, however, had undertaken to observe the regulations, and his general attitude was now different.

No suggestion was made against his integrity, honour or competence.

"I think Dr. Fowler well merited his original suspension and was justly dealt with by the Committee and the Minister," his Honour said. "It is my opinion that Dr. Fowler is entirely responsible for these proceedings, and he should pay the Minister's costs of the appeal."

Mr. E. G. Whitlam (by E. France) for appellant; Mr. R. Reynolds (by the Commonwealth Crown Solicitor) for the Minister.

### UKRAINE DOCTOR FINED ON DRUG CHARGE

An unregistered medical practitioner, Tinon Milowaniw, was fined £100 in the Central Court of Petty Sessions recently for having possessed a prohibited drug.

Milowaniw, 40, of Platform road, Lidcombe, pleaded not guilty to a charge of having on May 10 posed as a doctor and to two charges of having on the same date possessed prohibited drugs.

Detective-Sergeant R. E. Baker, of Darlinghurst, said pethidine hydrochloride and morphine sulphate were found in a briefcase of Milowaniw's when he was being questioned on another matter at Darlinghurst Police Station.

Detective Baker said that Milowaniw told police he was known as "Dr. Miller."

He claimed to have been fully qualified as a medical practitioner in the Ukraine, but admitted that he was not registered to practise medicine in N.S.W.

Mr. R. Loveday, for Milowaniw, said that Milowaniw had documents to show that he had qualified in the Ukraine as a doctor.

Mr. E. J. Gibson, S.M., dismissed the charge of having posed as a doctor, saying there was no evidence to support it.

He also dismissed the charge of having possessed pethidine hydrochloride, saying there was no evidence that the provisions of the Act had been extended to cover that preparation.



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## NEW SOUTH WALES—Continued

Milowaniw in evidence denied he was in possession of morphine sulphate.

Mr. Gibson found the case proved.

He said that Milowaniw, by his evidence, had accused Detective-Sergeant Baker and Detective-Constable F. W. Kitto of conspiracy by suggesting they had "planted" the drugs on him.

Mr. Loveday, in a plea for leniency, said that Milowaniw had recently faced a capital charge. A Central Criminal Court jury stopped the case and acquitted him.

As a result, Milowaniw had been worried. He had suffered monetary loss by having to defend himself against a charge of which the three present charges were part.

Mr. Gibson said that, but for the fact that Milowaniw had accused the police of planting the drugs on him, he would have been disposed to have dealt with the matter more leniently.

### CHEMISTS MEET AT WAGGA

Members of the Riverina and South-West Pharmacists' Association met in the Board Room of the Chamber of Commerce, Baylis street, Wagga, on Sunday, October 21, at 11 a.m., there being present Messrs. C. N. Small, Wagga; J. Morris, Tumut; C. Price, Tarcutta; G. A. R. Dinsmore, Cootamundra; G. E. Newton, Cootamundra; C. H. Todd, Temora; C. R. Glass, Temora; V. T. McCabe, Junee; Messrs. J. R. Nolan, M. H. Gissing, R. P. Larkin, A. W. Loch, and Mrs. M. M. Hamill, of Wagga.

The Chairman, Mr. Aub Loch, opened the meeting and extended a welcome to the Sydney representatives of official Pharmacy, Mr. Leslie W. Smith, Mr. Aub Winterton and Mr. Alan Conolly.

#### Election of Zone Officers

**President:** Mr. Loch was unanimously re-elected to the office of President. Responding, Mr. Loch said: "Thank you for re-electing me as President. It is indeed an honour."

**Secretary:** Mr. Cos Small was re-elected as Secretary.

**Treasurer:** Mr. M. Gissing was elected as Treasurer.

Mr. Loch then asked Mr. Winterton to address the meeting.

Mr. Winterton said: "Thank you for the very nice welcome. The membership of the Society was growing rapidly and was now around the 2500 mark. Society membership is open to all pharmacists, not only those in business. This year the post graduate lectures by Professor Thorp were well attended, and they had a record number of first year apprentices enrolled, necessitating the engaging of a more commodious lecture hall. The lectures were printed and available to country members."

The A.P.F. has been approved by the Hospitals Commission as the official formulat for public hospitals in N.S.W. The Council had resolved to present each public hospital with a copy. (Applause.)

A meeting would soon be held at Newcastle under the aegis of the Dermatological Association. There would be a trade exhibit. He had a letter from the Dermatological Association of Australia concerning a conference on ointments. The dermatologists were interested in ointment bases.

Mr. Winterton said they had formed a liaison committee with the dentists. They had certain points in common, which it was desirable to get together about. Already they had had a talk with the President of the Dental Association on the poisons regulations. He asked for an opinion on the matter of establishment of a liaison with the veterinary surgeons. (Applause.)

After discussion it was decided that the Society be

requested to pursue the matter of liaison between the Veterinary Surgeons' Association and the Society.

**Dispensing Fees:** Mr. Smith then dealt with the introduction of the new dispensing fees, without a blast of trumpets.

**Bureau of Statistics:** Mr. Conolly gave some agate points.

**Telephone Repairs:** A member said that chemists had no priority for telephone repairs necessary during the week-end. The Guild was requested to seek a priority for pharmacists.

The hour being late, the Chairman called upon Mr. Dinsmore to move a vote of thanks to the visitors.

Mr. Dinsmore said: "It gives me very great pleasure to move this vote of thanks to Mr. Smith, Mr. Winterton and Mr. Conolly for coming here today to explain matters so simply. We read in the "Gileal News" of the activities of Mr. Smith. He has given his answers today in full detail. I am sure you will all join with me in carrying this vote of thanks by acclamation. We always get a prompt reply from Mr. Conolly, but personal contact is better."

The vote of thanks was duly carried.

Messrs. Smith, Winterton and Conolly briefly responded and the meeting concluded.

#### POISONS ACT 1952-1956—PROCLAMATION

Extract from New South Wales Government Gazette  
No. 124 dated 16/11/56.

(L.S.) J. NORTHCOTT, Governor.

I, Sir John Northcott, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Member of the Royal Victorian Order, Lieutenant-General on the Retired List of the Australian Military Forces, Governor of the State of New South Wales and its Dependencies in the Commonwealth of Australia, in pursuance of the provisions of the Poisons Act 1952-1956, and with the advice of the Executive Council, do, by this my Proclamation, declare that the Poisons List established under such Act shall be amended as set forth hereunder.

Signed and sealed at Sydney, this seventh day of November, 1956.

By His Excellency's Command, W. SHEAHAN.  
GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

The Poisons List is amended:—

(a) by removing from the third part of Schedule One thereof the following substance:—

\*Antihistamines—all tertiary nitrogenous organic bases and their salts which possess any property characteristic of antihistamine compounds.

(b) by adding to the third part of Schedule One thereof, in appropriate alphabetical order, the following substance:—

\*Antihistamines—all tertiary nitrogenous organic bases and their salts which possess any pharmacological property characteristic of antihistamine compounds.

(c) by removing from the third part of Schedule One thereof the following substance:—

†Nor adrenaline, its salts, its N-alkyl derivatives, their salts.

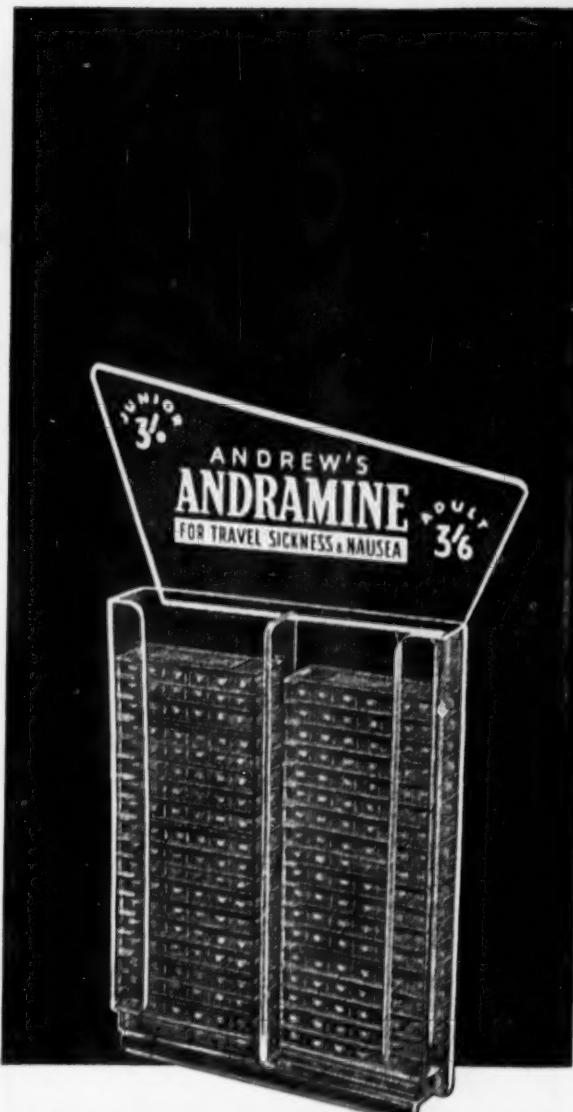
(d) by adding to the third part of Schedule One thereof, in appropriate alphabetical order, the following substances:—

\*Nor adrenaline, its salts, its N-alkyl derivatives, their salts, in substances containing one per cent. or less of the base:

†Nor adrenaline, its salts, its N-alkyl derivatives, their salts, in substances containing more than one per cent. of the base.

(e) by removing from Schedule Two thereof the following substance:—

Carbon tetrachloride, except when used for the treatment of humans, and for veterinary purposes.



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**NEW SOUTH WALES—Continued**

- (f) by adding to Schedule Two thereof, in appropriate alphabetical order, the following substance:—  
Carbon tetrachloride, except when used for the treatment of humans or for veterinary purposes or in fire extinguishers or refill containers for such extinguishers.
- (g) by removing from Schedule Three thereof the following substance:—  
\*Benzhexol and its salts and the following substances and their salts used for Parkinsonism; Diethazine, Caramiphen.
- (h) by adding to Schedule Three thereof, in appropriate alphabetical order, the following substance:—  
\*Benzhexol and its salts and the following substances and their salts used for Parkinsonism; Diethazine, Caramiphen, Ethopropazine.
- (i) by adding to Schedule Three thereof, in appropriate alphabetical order, the following substance:—  
\*Chlorpromazine.  
Mustine Hydrochloride.
- (j) by removing from Schedule Three thereof the following substance:—  
\*Sex hormones whether natural or synthetic.
- (k) by adding to Schedule Three thereof, in appropriate alphabetical order, the following substance:—  
\*Sex hormones whether natural or synthetic, except when contained in cosmetic preparations of a strength not exceeding 10,000 international units or oestrogenic activity per ounce. (1921).

**REGULATIONS UNDER THE POISONS ACT 1952-56**  
**Poisons Advisory Committee Recommendations**  
Extract from New South Wales Government Gazette No. 124, dated 16/11/1956.

Department of Public Health,  
 Sydney, November 16, 1956.

His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council and on the recommendation of the Poisons Advisory Committee, has been pleased to amend the Regulations under the Poisons Act 1952-1956 in the manner set forth hereunder.

W. SHEAHAN, Minister for Health.

The Regulations are amended—

- (1) by omitting from the list of poisons shown in subparagraph (i) of paragraph (a) of clause (1) of Regulation 4 the following poison:—

“Antihistamines—all tertiary nitrogenous organic bases and their salts which possess any property characteristic of antihistamine compounds;”

and by inserting in lieu thereof the following poison:—

“Antihistamines—all tertiary nitrogenous organic bases and their salts which possess any pharmacological property characteristic of antihistamine compounds.”

- (2) by adding to the list of poisons shown in subparagraph (i) of paragraph (a) of clause (1) of Regulation 4, in appropriate alphabetical order, the following poison:—

“Nor adrenaline, its salts, its N-alkyl derivatives, their salts, in substances containing one per cent. or less of the base;”

- (3) by omitting from the list of poisons shown in subparagraph (ii) of paragraph (a) of clause (1) of Regulation 4, the following poison:—

“Nor adrenaline, its salts, its N-alkyl derivatives, their salts.”



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- and by inserting in lieu thereof the following poison:—  
“Nor adrenaline, its salts, its N-alkyl derivatives, their salts, in substances containing more than one per cent. of the base;”
- (4) by inserting at the end of Regulation 13 the words:—  
“Provided that a proprietary preparation containing fluoroacetic acid or its salts, for use for agricultural, pastoral or horticultural purposes, or as a vermicide, shall be exempt from the provisions of Part III of the Act and the Regulations, other than this Regulation, made under that Part, upon the following conditions:—  
(i) the proprietary preparation shall be in in the form of prepared baits poisoned with fluoroacetic acid or its salts, in concentrations not exceeding 0.04 per cent. calculated as fluoroacetic acid, and  
(ii) in addition to the poison, shall contain a suitable emetic.”
- (5) by omitting from the list of poisons shown in paragraph (c) of Regulation 11 and in paragraphs (2) and (4) of Regulation 17, the following poison:—  
“Carbon Tetrachloride, except when used for the treatment of humans and for veterinary purposes;”
- and by inserting in lieu thereof the following poison:—  
“Carbon Tetrachloride, except when used for the treatment of humans or for veterinary purposes, or in fire extinguishers or refill containers for such extinguishers;”
- (6) by omitting from the list of restricted drugs shown in subparagraph (b) of paragraph (1) of Regulation 18, the following restricted drug:—  
“Sex hormones, natural or synthetic (for chemical caponisation);”
- and by inserting in lieu thereof the following restricted drug:—  
“Sex hormones whether natural or synthetic, except when contained in cosmetic preparations of a strength not exceeding 10,000 international units of oestrogenic activity per ounce (for chemical caponisation);”
- (7) by omitting from the list of restricted drugs shown in subparagraph (a) of paragraph (3) of Regulation 18, the following restricted drug:—  
“Benzhexol and its salts and the following substances and their salts used for Parkinsonism—Diethazine, Caramiphen,”
- and by inserting in lieu thereof the following restricted drug:—  
“Benzhexol and its salts and the following substances and their salts used for Parkinsonism—Diethazine, Caramiphen, Ethopropazine;”
- (8) by adding to the list of restricted drugs shown in subparagraph (a) of paragraph (3) of Regulation 18, in appropriate alphabetical order, the following restricted drugs:—  
“Chlorpromazine.”  
“Rauwolfia.”
- (9) by omitting from the list of restricted drugs shown in subparagraph (a) of paragraph (3) of Regulation 18, the following restricted drug:—  
“Sex hormones, whether natural or synthetic;”
- and by inserting in lieu thereof the following restricted drug:—  
“Sex hormones whether natural or synthetic, except when contained in cosmetic preparations of a strength not exceeding 10,000 international units of oestrogenic activity per ounce;”



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## NEW SOUTH WALES—Continued

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### PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

#### Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales met at "Science House," 157 Gloucester street, Sydney, on November 6, at 7.45 p.m.

**Present.**—Messrs. B. G. Fegent (Chairman), E. G. Hall, K. A. Cartwright, J. L. Townley, H. W. Read, J. F. Plunkett, W. R. Cutler, G. Benjamin, K. H. Powell, A. F. Winterton, and Miss M. Sweeney.

**University Accommodation.**—Mr. Hall proposed that in view of certain events which had taken place at the University as reported today, the matter of University accommodation should be taken first. Agreed.

Mr. Hall said that over the 12.30 p.m. news the A.B.C. stated that the Acting Vice-Chancellor of the University announced that Dr. S. E. Wright had been appointed as Associate Professor in Pharmacy in the University.

It was decided to forward congratulations to Dr. Wright on his new appointment.

**Bi-Monthly News Sheet.**—Mr. Fegent said the Editorial Committee had met on November 9, and a report had been circulated to Councillors.

The meeting then discussed the proposed new heading, and it was agreed that the printer should set up the complete heading in type in order that its appearance might be studied.

**First Year Apprentices' Lectures 1956.**—Examiners' reports: No. passed 63, No. failed 99. Total 162.

1st place shared by Miss B. Van Epen, Mr. K. Kesby and Mr. R. B. McEwan.

2nd place shared by V. McNeil and G. C. Steel.

3rd place, Miss P. Milgate.

It was decided that £2/2/- each should be paid to the three apprentices who shared first place.

#### Country Visits 1956

**Meeting at Tamworth, 7/10/56.**—Mr. Fegent reported that the meeting was well represented by towns. The meeting approved the formation of liaison with the Veterinary Surgeons. A report of the meeting had been circulated to Council.

**Meeting at Wagga Wagga, 21/10/56.**—Mr. Winterton reported that the meeting was quite successful. The river was in flood and this prevented some from attending.

#### Zone Meeting at Orange, 11/11/56.—Noted.

**Annual Meeting of N.H.V.P.A.**—Mr. Fegent said he would be attending this meeting on November 13 in company with Mr. Smith and the Secretary.

Mr. Powell said that at the previous meeting the Association had voted another £10 for a Scholarship and had offered it to the Society as a prize.

**A.N.Z.A.A.S. Meeting, Dunedin, January, 1957.**—Nothing further to report at this stage.

**S. W. Gayfer Bequest Essay Competition 1956.**—The Secretary said that no further entries had been received yet.

Details concerning the competition were being published again in the "A.J.P." and the "Gilseal News."

**Liaison with Dental Association.**—The Australian Dental Association wrote on October 25 that the Executive of the Association had appointed to the Liaison Committee the Vice-President, Mr. E. J. Gee, Dr. E. R. Magnus and Mr. R. Currie, as its representatives. The letter added, "At your convenience, I shall be pleased to have advice as to the holding of the first meeting in order that our members may be advised."

Mr. Fegent said that a meeting would be arranged in due course.

**Liaison with Veterinary Surgeons.**—It was decided to wait until after the Orange meeting before an approach is made to the Veterinary Surgeons.

**Proposed Car Badge for Society Members.**—Mr. Cartwright said he had looked into this matter regarding cost. Angus & Cootie £35 for the mould, 35/- each for the badge. Another person had quoted 38/- per badge.

After further discussion the proposal was not proceeded with.

**Proposed Museum.**—Mr. Reid said his suggestion was self-explanatory; we could make a display at the Annual Meeting, of the equipment and books which we have.

After discussion, Mr. Benjamin suggested that an approach be made to the University to obtain ancient relics pertaining to pharmacy, for inclusion in the Mat. Med. Museum. This suggestion was adopted. Mr. Benjamin said he referred to objects d'art.

**Farewell Function—Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Townley.**—Mr. Fegent said that the Bligh Room at Adam's Hotel on the 2nd floor had been booked for Friday night, January 11, 1957, for the function. The charge was now £1 per head.

Mr. Plunkett inquired whether wives could come.

Mr. Fegent: "Yes."

**Secretary's Holidays.**—The Secretary to commence his holidays upon return from Orange on November 12.

**Distribution of A.P.F. to Public Hospitals in N.S.W.**—The Secretary said that copies of the A.P.F. were now ready for distribution.

It was decided that reference should be made in the "A.J.P." to the fact that the A.P.F. was now official in public hospitals in New South Wales.

**Uniform Poisons Legislation—Commonwealth Government's Approach to the States.**—Mr. Townley said that the suggested new legislation had been drawn up by the Federal people.

Mr. Powell said that the proposed uniform legislation should be referred to all pharmaceutical bodies in each State for the benefit of their opinion. It should also be referred to the P.A.A.

The need for such reference was well instanced by the effects produced by the introduction of the Poisons Act in N.S.W. wherein a true appreciation of the drastic effect of the Regulations was not known beforehand.

Mr. Powell said the P.A.A. should seek the opinions of its constituent bodies on the proposed uniform poisons legislation as circulated to the Pharmacy Boards by the Federal Government.

It was decided to write to the P.A.A. accordingly.

Concerning anomalies in the Poisons Act and Regulations in N.S.W., the following persons were appointed to a select committee to prepare a list of the anomalies and the remedies therefor.

**Personnel of Select Committee—Messrs. K. H. Powell, G. Benjamin, J. L. Townley and E. G. Hall.**

The matter of selecting a meeting night was reposed with the Select Committee.

**Correspondence.**—Dr. Geoff Finley, The Dermatological Association of Australia, concerning the question of a conference on various ointments. The matter has been handed on to the N.S.W. Branch of the British Association of Dermatology.

Mr. Fegent said there would be a trade exhibition at Newcastle. There had been discussion over the dispensing of certain scripts for ointments. This could be discussed when a meeting eventuated with the N.S.W. Branch of the British Association of Dermatology.

Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria, advising that the tentative material for Medical Bulletin No. 11 is "seasonal formulae" to include—Fungicidal Dusting Powders, Preparations for Summer Diarrhoea, Hay Fever Preparations, Skin Lotions for prickly heat and

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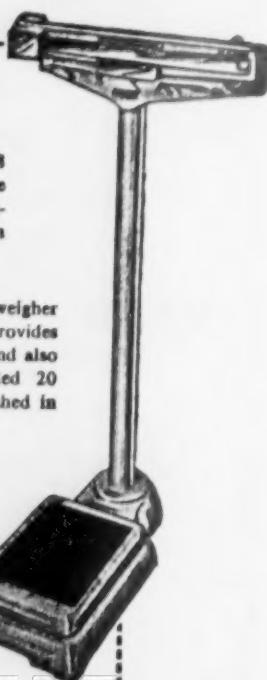


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## NEW SOUTH WALES—Continued

summer rashes. Asking for any suggestions relevant to Bulletin No. 11. Received.

Pharmaceutical Association of Australia, advising that Kodak Travelling Scholarship No. 3 has been awarded to Mr. A. I. K. Lloyd (Vic.). Noted.

Mrs. W. A. Curry, Eastwood, advising the A.W.P.C. of N.S.W. is holding its annual Christmas party at Glen Aschan on 18/12/56. Cordially inviting Councillors and their wives to be present. It was observed that the cost was £2 per person.

Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria, enclosing copy of report of A.P.F. Revision Committee meeting held 16/8/56. No comment.

**New Members Elected.**—Miss Sheelagh Kay Barry, Centennial Park; Mrs. Margaret Alayne Elizabeth Davis, Chester Hill; Raymond Robert Gardiner, Drummoyne; Miss Janice Lillian Rolland, Maroubra; Barry P. White, Manly; Mrs. Annette Rosemary Tynan, North Deniliquin.

**Reinstatement.**—Ernest Harold Fawcett, Seaforth.

**Associate Members.**—Donald John Werge Hawdon, Ronald Francis Natoli, John Robert Whatmore, Vincent H. P. Young.

### THE GUILD

#### S.R.C. Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the New South Wales Branch of the Guild met at 157 Gloucester street, Sydney, on October 11 at 8 p.m.

##### Metropolitan Zone Meetings:

**Manly-Warringah Pharmacists' Association 19/9/56.**—Mr. Bradford said the meeting was a very good one with a satisfactory attendance.

Inquiries regarding pricing matters were answered by Mr. Leece.

Mr. Leece said that Mr. Powell, of Narrabeen, inquired regarding the prices for S.V.M. which were not in the Retail Price List, the reason being that Mr. Thomas had not been able to get stable prices.

The meeting was told of the Guild Guide to the Poisons Schedules which was explained in proper terms.

**North Shore.**—Mr. Leece said that the inaugural meeting would be held on October 20 at Shangri-la, Anderson street, Chatswood.

##### Country Visits 1956:

**Newcastle, 30/9/56.**—Mr. Smith said that the meeting had been very successful, lasting until 5.45 p.m.

**Tamworth.**—Regarding the meeting at Tamworth on October 7, Mr. Smith said the meeting was a very good one—they really ironed out their own differences regarding the question of addition of freight to certain chemist-only merchandise.

The zone would print a list of freight additions for circulation within the zone.

**Wagga.**—Mr. Smith said he would attend the zone meeting at Wagga Wagga on October 21.

**Orange.**—It was noted that the Orange meeting would be held on November 11.

**Guild Guide to the Poisons Schedules.**—Mr. Thomas said that the range of products affected by the Poisons Act and Regulations was so great that it cheapened the value of the legislation; the rank and file of Guild members would support a protest at the far-reaching range. For example, how many people had been poisoned with Mercurochrome? The legislation had gone too far; it was out of hand.

The matter of labelling had been raised, and he suggested that manufacturers producing goods which

require labelling by the pharmacist should leave a small window for this purpose. Matter to be referred to Trade and Commerce Sub-Committee.

Mr. Smith (Chairman) inquired what was the best thing to do.

After discussion it was decided that an interview be sought with the Minister on the matter of the Poisons Act and Regulations and their application, and that a letter be written to the Secretary of the Poisons Advisory Committee asking that a meeting of that Committee be called.

Mr. Jordan suggested that future Retail Price Lists should be marked with the poisons, that is articles containing a poison.

Mr. Frew suggested contacting the manufacturers regarding labelling.

It was decided that the Guild contact manufacturers urging them to label their products as per the Regulations.

**Reports of Sub-Committees** were dealt with as follows:—

(A) **Trade and Commerce Planning and Publicity.**—It was noted that the next meeting of the Trade and Commerce Sub-Committee would be held on November 5.

(B) **Pricing.**—Dispensing Fees: The Pricing Sub-Committee had circulated a list of proposed definitions for which it sought approval.

Mr. Smith said that the verbiage of the second definition could be improved by adding "in addition to the container cost."

Mr. Frew referred to the course of action which should be taken when dealing with scripts for Disprin, Codis, Amphojel, Amphotabs, Agarol, Anusol, etc.

It was decided to refer to Federal Council the matter of treatment of branded ethicals.

(C) **Dispensing.**—Mr. Sapsford said regarding the pricing of Social Service prescriptions, many pharmacists did not know what could be dispensed. He had phoned Dr. Broome of the Social Services Department, who had agreed to circulate details of what could be dispensed.

**Next Issue of Retail Price List.**—Mr. Thomas said that it had been decided to modify the time of issue. Lists in future would be issued on March 1, June 1, December 1, etc. The next Retail Price List would come out on December 14, 1956.

Mr. Jordan congratulated the Pricing Sub-Committee on bringing out the current Retail Price List strictly up to time.

**Correspondence.**—Mr. Noel Leggatt, Frederick Stearns & Co., inviting the President and the State Branch Committee to a dinner in the Kent Room, Hotel Australia, on November 18.

All other members of the State Branch Committee except Mr. Pinerua, who would be away, indicated they would be present.

The F.P.S. Guild, Queensland State Branch, expressing appreciation at Retail List No. 29. Mr. Bell reports everything is in order. Mr. Smith said he was very pleased to see the letter from the Queensland Branch.

**J. & J.'s Party at Kirribilli Yacht Club.**—Members noted that the party would be held at the Kirribilli Yacht Club on November 9.

**New Members Elected.**—Messrs. Raymond Leslie Coates, Gerringong; Allan Eric Duncan, Haberfield; Peter Ivanovsky, Lane Cove; Ayron Alexander O'Keeffe, St. Peters; Peter J. Shakeshaft, Chatswood West; Edward Owen Snelling, Kensington.

**Reinstatement.**—C. D. Clifton, Forster.

The meeting terminated at 11 p.m.

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# VICTORIA

## PERSONAL and GENERAL

## State News

Members in Victoria desiring publication of personal items of interest are invited to write or telephone details to the Editor (FJ 5161).

**Mr. C. H. Simpson** has appointed Mr. I. Jonas as manager of his pharmacy at Prahran.

**Mr. R. Christensen** has been appointed manager of Dyte's pharmacy, Caulfield.

**Mr. D. W. Knill** has been appointed manager of Mr. Rayner Calvert's pharmacy, 90 Maling road, Canterbury.

During Mr. A. Y. S. Wilson's illness, **Mr. G. E. Kurrie** of Swan Hill took charge of his pharmacy at Nyah West. **Mr. Westlake** relieved Mr. Kurrie.

### Business Changes

**Mr. A. S. Cattanach** advised having moved into new premises at 81 Hudson road, Spotswood. He was previously at 86 Hudson road.

**Bairrouney Pharmacies** advise change of address to 173 Victoria street, Albert Park.

**Mr. L. Long** is at present at his new pharmacy, "South Pacific," St. Kilda, and **Mr. G. R. Ponsford** has gone to Toorak pharmacy.

**Mr. D. J. De Maria** has closed his pharmacy at Carlton and opened at 579 Sydney road, Brunswick.

The following pharmacies have changed hands:

**Mr. A. W. Cocking** purchased from Mr. R. C. Clarke, 63 Railway road, Blackburn.

**Mr. E. D. Casper** purchased from Mr. A. Aronson, 59 Leeds street, Footscray.

### New Pharmacies

New pharmacies have been opened at the addresses indicated:

**Mr. C. S. Widdicombe**, Main street, Croydon.

**Mr. D. J. De Maria**, 579 Sydney road, Brunswick.

**Mr. D. G. Quayle**, Alkira avenue, Norlane, Geelong.

**Mr. W. V. O'Connor**, 419 High street, Northcote.

### MANAGERS AND RELIEVERS: NOVEMBER LIST

Manager or Reliever	Pharmacy
Miss V. Adamson . .	Mr. M. I. Larkin, Dandenong. Miss M. Rollison, Romsey.
Mr. T. Beyer . .	Mr. H. W. Clemence, Toorak.
Blakley, Miss M. . .	Mrs. Hylston, Bentleigh. Mr. Silverwood, Edithvale.
Barker, Mrs. J. K. .	Mr. J. H. West, Mildura.
Breen, Miss M. M. .	Mr. E. J. Dean, Red Cliffs.
Broome, Miss J. . .	Miss M. J. Dear, Melbourne. U.F.S. Dispensary, Eaglehawk. West Gippsland Hospital, War-
	ragul.
	Estate W. Ashdale Smith, Bairns-
	dale.
Bromley, Mr. A. J. .	Mr. R. P. Hynes, Colac.
Bloore, Mr. J. G. .	Mr. A. H. Mansell, Glenferrie.
Cocks, Mr. D. G. .	Mr. E. T. P. Davies, Upwey. Mr. D. G. Mitchell, Chelsea.
Collett, Mr. B. . .	Mr. W. G. Wilson, Hampton. Mr. D. G. Mitchell, Chelsea. Mr. A. R. Hibbard, Box Hill.

### Manager or Reliever

Manager or Reliever	Pharmacy
Coppock, Mr. J. . .	Mr. H. S. Cope, Ascot Vale.
Crawford, Mr. J. .	Mr. T. P. Denton, Hawthorn.
Davies, Mrs. A. A. .	Mr. A. H. Mansell, Glenferrie.
Digby, Mr. J. W. .	Mr. A. K. Sanders, Bright.
Doble, Mr. R. W. .	Mr. K. A. Beynon, Bairndale.
Dyer, Mr. W. . .	Mr. R. W. Mercer, Corryong.
George, Mr. M. . .	Mr. K. Murphy, Woodend.
Gurry, Mr. L. F. .	Mr. M. R. Rodd, Bunyip.
Hall, Mr. R. K. .	Mr. F. Cheshire, Box Hill.
Halperin, Mr. D. .	Mr. T. P. Lane, Daylesford.
Hanton, Miss . .	Miss A. S. Sutherland, Geelong.
Hayes, Miss M. .	Parkville Pharmacy, Parkville.
Hood, Mr. G. . .	Mr. P. Gordon, Melbourne.
Jarvis, Miss R. .	Mr. G. R. Hore, Melbourne.
Linn, Mr. N. . .	Mr. B. B. Brown, Ascot Vale.
Maxwell, Mr. R. .	Mr. I. H. Barnes, Hartwell.
McKee, Mr. P. R. .	Mr. J. Buckley, Ascot Vale.
Michau, Mr. F. .	Mr. J. H. Rowntree, Hamilton.
Miller, Mr. H. . .	Mr. A. N. Barcham, E. Bentleigh.
Morris, Mr. C. . .	Mr. A. A. Reeve, Merlynton.
Noonan, Mr. J. .	Miss H. Ware, Ferntree Gully.
Nunn, Mr. B. E. .	Mr. W. Jackson, Beaumaris.
O'Connor, Mr. H. .	Mr. R. Tyler, Williamstown.
Rainey, Mr. A. .	Mr. C. Blenkin, Toorak.
Sanderson, Miss E. J. . . . .	Mr. R. S. Darling, Warracknabeal.
Schwarz, Mr. S. .	Mr. I. M. Purton, Balranald, N.S.W.
Stewart, Mr. D. .	Mr. L. D. Hilton, Mt. Evelyn.
Shaw, Mr. A. . .	Mr. E. R. Clark, Clayton.
Trengrove, Mr. G. T. .	Mr. A. Lourie, E. Bentleigh.
Trengrove, Mr. G. T. .	Mr. E. G. Heriot, Moonee Ponds.
Ulrich, Mr. P. . .	Mr. E. N. Starr, Malvern.
Wilkinson, Miss I. .	Mr. K. R. Tyler, Morwell.
Whittaker, Miss E. .	Mr. I. Herbert, Altona.
Younes, Miss C. .	Mr. E. R. Clark, Clayton.
	Mr. N. J. Turnbull, Toorak.
	Marrison's Pharmacy, Moonee Ponds.
	Mr. D. J. Worland, Fitzroy.
	Mr. J. Winter, Colac.
	Mr. J. G. Gallagher, Armadale.
	Mr. D. Cain, "Stanhill," Melb.
	Mr. J. J. Lonergan, Footscray.
	Mr. K. Henderson, Mooroopna Hospital.
	Mr. P. M. Balding, Mansfield.
	Mr. J. W. Chandler, Richmond.

### WEDDING

The marriage of **Miss P. Praetz, Ph.C.**, and **Mr. J. L. Powell, Ph.C.**, took place during the month. Mr. Powell was the winner of the Gold Medal for the Intermediate year for 1952, and Miss Praetz also is the holder of a Silver Medal gained during her pharmacy course. The young couple have arranged to leave Melbourne on an overseas trip on December 3, and will be absent for twelve months or more. We offer them our congratulations and best wishes.

### B.W. & CO. FILM NIGHTS

The last of the series of film evenings arranged in Melbourne by Burroughs Wellcome & Co. (Aust.) Ltd. was held at the Shell Theatrette on the night of October 29, when the films "Foxgloves in Medicine," "The Story of the Wellcome Foundation Ltd., and "The Rival World" (a Shell film) were shown and appreciated by the large number who were present.

The guests were entertained at supper at the conclusion of the screening.

## VICTORIA—Continued

### OFFICE-BEARERS AUSTRALIAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION (VICTORIAN BRANCH)

At the recent annual elections held by the Victorian Branch of the Australian Dental Association the following office-bearers were appointed for 1957:—

**President:** Mr. D. F. Spring.

**Senior Vice-President:** Mr. G. W. Sutcliffe.

**Junior Vice-President:** Dr. A. G. Parker.

**Honorary Treasurer:** Dr. N. H. Andrews.

**Honorary Secretary:** Dr. J. N. Wark.

### REGISTRATION OF ALIEN DOCTORS

#### Question In Parliament

Mr. Snider, M.L.A., asked Mr. Porter, Honorary Minister, on October 31, if the Minister had received information from the Medical Board concerning the reasons for the rejection of 73 applications from alien doctors, desiring to practise in Victoria, and when it was expected that the Board would complete its examination of the balance of the applications.

Mr. Porter replied to the effect that the Minister of Health indicated that the Medical Board was not required to state the reasons for rejection of any application under the Medical Acts.

In reply to the second question the Minister of Health had stated that it was probable that the examination of applications would be completed by the Medical Board at its meeting in November, 1956.

#### Six Migrant Doctors Registered

Six migrant doctors whose applications were approved during the previous week by the Medical Board were granted certificates of registration on November 19, enabling them to practise in Victoria.

The certificates were presented by the Acting Chairman of the Board (Mr. C. H. C. Searby) at a ceremony in the Board's office.

Only five of the 96 migrant doctors who applied for registration under legislation passed by Parliament six months ago remain to be interviewed by the Board.

Of those already interviewed by the Board only seven, including the six referred to above, have been approved.

### DISCUSSION GROUP

#### Third Annual Meeting

The Third Annual Meeting of the Discussion Group was held at the College of Pharmacy on November 7, at 8 p.m., preceding the Group's usual monthly discussion which, on this occasion, included talks by Dr. and Mrs. N. McCallum, reported elsewhere in this issue.

In view of the absence of the President of the Society, Mr. E. Scott, and the Vice-President, Mr. F. W. Johnson, the presiding chairman representing the Society was Mr. J. R. Oxley. After declaring the meeting open, Mr. Oxley called upon the President of the Group, Mr. Geoff Treleaven, to read the annual report. He read as follows:

"The Discussion Group has now completed its third year, and all members of the Committee find it very encouraging that pharmacists generally, and younger graduates and students in particular, are showing increasing interest in the Group's activities.

"Subjects discussed during the year have covered a wide field, and the attendances have averaged about 100, with well over 200 at some meetings, notably Dr. Bazeley's lecture on the Salk Vaccine; "Dispensing Problems," led by Mr. Manning assisted by other members of the College staff; Dr. Elizabeth Turner's talk on "Infant Feeding" and "Drug Regulations" led by Mr. H. A. Braithwaite. A large attendance also was present for the late Mr. Baillot's scheduled talk on Colour Photography, but due to Mr. Baillot's sudden illness the talk had to be cancelled, and he died shortly

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afterwards. On behalf of the Group I offer our sincere sympathy to his widow and all members of his family.

"Sincere thanks are due, and I now extend them to the various guest speakers who have assisted the Group during the year, thus voluntarily giving up their time to help pharmacy.

"To the President and Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, and in particular to Mr. F. C. Kent and Mr. R. H. Borowski, I extend thanks for their generous assistance and helpful advice at all times, and my personal thanks are given to all members of my Committee for their loyalty and enthusiasm in attending the monthly meetings. To Mr. Geoff Leete, our hard-working Secretary, special thanks are due; since its inception Mr. Leete has been the driving force in the Discussion Group, and it is largely due to his enthusiasm and determination that the Group has attained the prestige it has today.

"To Mr. John Oxley, our Foundation President, we are particularly indebted; it was largely Mr. Oxley's foresight that brought the Discussion Group into being, and during his term as President the Group became firmly established. I would like to take this opportunity of extending our congratulations to Mr. Oxley on his elevation to the Council of the Society.

"In conclusion may I say how sincerely I feel that the Discussion Group is making an important contribution to pharmacy in Victoria, and I am confident that with your continued support another successful year is ahead."

Mr. Oxley, in moving the adoption of the report, added congratulations to Mr. Treleaven on his very successful year as President, and to his Committee, whose support had enabled the year's activities to be so highly satisfactory.

In the election of office-bearers, Mr. Treleaven was re-elected President and Mr. E. G. Leete Vice-President.

Before the Committee was elected, the Secretary, Mr. Leete, moved that the number on the Committee be increased from 6 to 8. The meeting endorsed this suggestion and Misses J. Elder, G. Ibbott and C. Younes and Mr. M. Barr (former Committee members) were re-elected. The following were nominated for the remaining positions, Messrs. J. Beyer, J. Coppock, I. Field and K. Walton, and were duly elected.

The Acting Chairman then invited Mr. Treleaven to the chair to introduce the guest speakers. Before doing so Mr. Treleaven thanked the retiring members of the committee, namely Miss J. Short and Mr. W. Wheeler, and called upon all present to lend their support to help make the 1957 series of discussions even more successful than those in the past. He added that the first lecture would be on February 13, 1957, and would probably be on Colour Photography.

## OBITUARY

### Charles Henry Norman Thompson

We regret to announce the death of Charles Henry Norman Thompson, which occurred on October 1. Mr. Thompson qualified at the Victorian Final Examination in December, 1935. After qualifying he was ordained as a minister of the Church of England. For some years he was stationed at Trentham, and at the time of his death was in charge of the parish at Merbein.

Mr. Thompson married Miss Gladys B. Leete, also a qualified pharmaceutical chemist, to whom we extend our sincere sympathy.

### William Ashdale Smith

It is with regret that we announce the death of William Ashdale Smith on September 27. Mr. Smith

qualified in Queensland in 1930 and was registered in Victoria in the same year. He was in business at Bentleigh for a considerable time and subsequently took over a pharmacy at Bairnsdale, where he was practising at the time of his death. We extend our sympathy to his widow and family.

**Edgar Elston Warren**

We regret to report the death of Mr. Edgar Elston Warren during the month.

Mr. Warren was registered in South Australia in 1934 and came to Victoria in 1946. Shortly before his death he was conducting a pharmacy at Huntingdale.

**Percy Marshal DeFraga**

We regret to record the death of Mr. P. M. DeFraga, which occurred on November 17. The late Mr. DeFraga passed the Victorian qualifying examination in 1917, and acted as manager and assistant for a number of years prior to opening a pharmacy at 238 Glen Eira road, Elsternwick, about 27 years ago. Failing health forced Mr. DeFraga to dispose of this pharmacy in 1953. He was a member of the Elsternwick Bowling Club and had other local interests. We extend sincere sympathy to the widow and members of the family.

**PHARMACY BOARD**

*Monthly Meeting*

The Pharmacy Board of Victoria met at 360 Swanston street, Melbourne, on November 15, at 4 p.m.

**Present.**—Mr. W. R. Iliffe (in the chair), Messrs. S. J. Baird, H. A. Braithwaite, A. W. Callister, N. C. Manning, A. W. McGibbony, W. Wishart, T. G. Allen, R. H. Borowski and the Registrar.

**Correspondence.**—Correspondence dealt with included the following:

To a distributing firm, pointing out the illegality of advertising for general sale of vaccines and sera for veterinary use.

From a maker of methylated spirits, seeking permission to distribute in oval imperial quart bottles of amber colour.—Request refused.

From a number of Eastern applicants, requesting acceptance of Cambridge School Certificates and other certificates as qualification for entrance. The recommendations of the sub-committee in regard to these applications were adopted.

From the town clerk of a suburban municipality, referring to recent prosecution of a chemist for having dirty premises, and asking for the Board to comment. The Board decided that reply be sent stating that it did not propose to comment at this stage.

From a medical practitioner, querying the prices charged for medicines prescribed by him. The President said this inquiry had been transmitted to the State Branch of the Guild for reply.

From two students, reporting loss of Pharmacognosy Practical Books. Resolved that the students be required to rewrite records of practical exercises done in the College of Pharmacy.

From the Department of Health, advising that the Crown Solicitor had confirmed an earlier opinion that it was not legally possible to remove by proclamation the name of any substance in or added to the Sixth Schedule to the Poisons Act.

**Formal Business.**—The following formal business was transacted:

**Application for Registration.**—The following were registered: Muriel Litchfield Groves and Robin Dean Briggs (Final Exam., Vic.); Maureen Joyce Hatherall

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## VICTORIA—Continued

and Jean Rogers (ex Great Britain); Shirley Elizabeth Crennan and Colin Paul Murphy (ex New Zealand).

**Erasure of Name From Register.**—Charles Henry Norman Thompson, deceased 1/10/1956.

**Restoration of Names to Register.**—Pamela Inez Zwar (Mrs. Crosthwaite), Jean Charlton (Mrs. King), James Aloysius Michael Noonan.

**Managers and Relievers Notified:** 54.

**Business Changes Notified:** 6.

**New Business Opened:** 6.

**Apprenticeship Indentures Transferred:** 2.

**Apprenticeship Indentures Suspended:** 7.

**Certificate of Identity Issued:** 7.

**Opium Permits Issued:** 6.

**Licences as General Dealers in Poisons Issued:** 1.

**Licences to Sell Poisonous Substances Issued:** 8.

**Licences to Sell Dangerous Drugs by Wholesale:** 1.

**Application for Authority to Have Possession of Dangerous Drugs:** 1.

**Permits to Purchase Cyanide:** 4.

**Licence to Sell Cyanide:** 1.

**Police Reports re Poisonings.**—Strychnine, 1 (fatal); Phenobarbital, 1 (not fatal).

**Inspectors' Reports, Inquiries, Etc.**—Mr. Borowski presented reports of the Inspectors for the past month. These showed that inspections had been carried out at 108 stores, 35 pharmacies, 1 dispensary, 5 hospitals and 6 wholesale houses. Three suspected drug addicts had been located and reported to the Drug Bureau.

Several reports revealing serious breaches of the regulations were reported in detail. After consideration the Board directed that legal proceedings be taken against four chemists. It further directed that another chemist, who had been proceeded against under the Health Act, should be called before the Board at its next meeting.

Report was received in reference to a complaint from a member of the public, concerning alleged medical treatment given to him by a pharmaceutical chemist. The Board directed that further inquiry be made.

**Antibiotics for Veterinary Use.**—Reports of unlawful distribution of antibiotics for veterinary use by pastoral companies and other firms were discussed at length. The President said that legal proceedings against one distributor and one wholesale supplier were pending. A member of the Board suggested that some modification of existing regulations was urgently required and it was resolved that the whole question be specially considered at an early date.

**Title "Chemist".**—A letter was received from the Royal Australian Institute of Chemistry, suggesting conference with the Board and the Pharmaceutical Society on the question of the right to the use of the title of "Chemist."

The Board agreed to take part in such a conference.

**Staff.**—The Registrar reported the death of Mr. Daniel, a member of the staff, during the month. He said that a letter of sympathy had been forwarded to Mrs. Daniel and that he had represented the Board at the funeral.

The Board expressed its regret at the death of Mr. Daniel, whose services it valued. The appointment by the Registrar of Mr. Gledhill to fill the vacancy thus caused was confirmed.

**Financial.**—The Hon. Treasurer presented the monthly financial statement, and the accounts totalling £1292 were passed for payment.

The meeting closed at 10.30 p.m.

## PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

### Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria met at 360 Swanston street, Melbourne, on November 7, at 9.30 a.m.

**Present.**—Mr. E. Scott (President) in the chair, Messrs. S. J. Baird, F. W. Johnson, L. Long, J. R. Oxley, C. P. A. Taylor, G. H. Williams and the Secretary.

**Correspondence.**—Formal correspondence and a précis of the more important letters were tabled. The following items were included:—

To Mr. H. F. Ackary, advising him of election as an Honorary Life Member.

From several members, forwarding foreign prescriptions for translation.

From the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, intimating that it would take 6000 copies of the A.P.F. Bulletin No. 10 for distribution in that State.

To the Postal Department, requesting favourable consideration of two applications from members for installation of telephones.

From Mr. T. C. Thomas, Hampstead, England, giving details of his forthcoming visit to Melbourne for the Olympic Games. The President said Mr. Thomas was an English chemist, who wished to meet pharmaceutical chemists and see some pharmacies while in Melbourne for the Olympic Games. It was agreed that arrangements be made for Mr. Thomas to be privately entertained.

From the Pharmaceutical Association, advising that Kodak Travelling Scholarship No. 3 had been awarded to Mr. A. I. K. Lloyd. The Council resolved that a letter of congratulation be sent to Mr. Lloyd.

From the Hon. Secretary, Australian Institute of Weights and Measures Administration, inviting the Council to send a representative to its Second Annual Conference, to be held on November 8 and 9. Resolved that Messrs. S. J. Baird and R. H. Borowski attend on behalf of the Society.

**New Members.**—The following new members were elected:—

**Full Members.**—Victor Maxwell Dreher, Muriel Litchfield Groves, Alison Judith Fay Southby.

**Apprentice Members.**—Raymond John Hood, Anthony Hamilton Lamb, Maxwell Edgar Neagle, Laurence Petrusch, Pakiavathy Rajaratnam, Hyman Sharp, Margaret Anne White.

#### Committee Reports.—

(a) **Finance Committee.**—The Hon. Treasurer reported that a meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Monday, November 5. Consideration was given to the scale of College fees and salaries and wages. Consideration was not finalised and the report would be submitted at the next meeting.

(b) **Education Committee.**—Mr. F. W. Johnson, Chairman of the Education Committee, submitted a report of the meeting held on November 5.

The Committee recommended that the members of the teaching staff in 1956 be reappointed for 1957. This recommendation was adopted.

The Committee also considered an offer of an annual prize from F. H. Faulding & Co. Ltd., and recommended the offer be accepted with thanks. This recommendation also was adopted.

Mr. Johnson said that following comments by the Dean of the College, Mr. A. T. S. Sissons, regarding the future shape of the curriculum, a most interesting discussion took place. He outlined the highlights of the discussion, after which it was resolved that the matters referred to should be listed for further consideration at the next meeting.

**A.P.F. Management Committee.**—Mr. Johnson, Chairman, reported on a meeting of the Management Committee held on October 8, when arrangements for issue of the A.P.F. Bulletin No. 10 were under consideration. The draft of this Bulletin had been approved, and it was now being printed. The prices of the preparations being featured was discussed, and at the suggestion of

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## VICTORIA—Continued

the Committee had been brought to the notice of the Guild Pricing Committee.

The report was received and adopted.

**Library.**—In the absence of the Hon. Librarian, Mrs. Crawford, a recommendation regarding purchase of new books was submitted by Mr. F. W. Johnson. The Council agreed on the purchase of the following books:—  
History of the School of Tropical Medicine in London, by Philip Manson-Bahr.

Medical Bacteriology, by Sir Lionel Whitby and Martin Hynes.

Perspectives in Organic Chemistry, dedicated to Sir Robert Robinson. Edited by A. R. Todd.  
Life of Sir Wm. Ramsay, by Morris W. Travers.

Automation. Friend or Foe, by B. H. Macmillan.

Wool Wax, by E. V. Truter.

Valency and Molecular Structure, by Cartmell and Fowles.

**College Rebuilding.**—The President reported that advice had been received from the State Treasury to the effect that no money had been allocated during the financial year ending June 30, 1957, for the building of the new College in Parkville. Consideration was being given to an allocation in the following year.

**Science Congress.**—The President reported that as Mr. A. T. S. Sissons, the Dean of the College, had been unable to accept representation of the Society at the A.N.Z.A.A.S. meeting to be held in Dunedin in January, 1957, Mr. A. W. Callister had been requested to represent the Victorian Society. Mr. Callister had intimated that if it was possible for him to obtain transport on the direct flight from Melbourne to Dunedin he would be willing to go. The Secretary said that inquiries were being undertaken as to the possibilities of getting a booking.

**Death of Mr. G. L. Daniel.**—The Secretary said he regretted to advise the Council of the death of Mr. G. L. Daniel, cashier in the Society's office. Mr. Daniel had given good service. A letter of sympathy had been sent to his widow and the Council was represented at the funeral. Mr. Gledhill had been appointed to the vacancy which had been caused. The Council recorded its sorrow at the passing of Mr. Daniel, and endorsed the Secretary's action in appointing Mr. Gledhill.

**Title "Chemist."**—A request from the Royal Australian Institute of Chemistry for a conference with representatives of the Society and the Pharmacy Board was considered, and it was agreed that the request be complied with.

**Centenary Celebrations.**—Certain proposals were put before the Council, and it was resolved that a special meeting of the Council be held at an early date to consider a programme for the centenary year. A suggestion from the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Baird, that the laying of the foundation stone of the new College building should be a feature, was endorsed.

**Student Congress.**—The President informed Council members that arrangements had been made for student visitors to the Congress to be held at Kinglake in January to be entertained at South Pacific at a cabaret dance on the evening of January 14, 1957. The suggestion was approved and the arrangements confirmed.

**Apprenticeship and National Service Training.**—Mr. Long drew attention to some difficulties associated with the apprenticeship and National Service Training. He said also that he had advice that certain proposals regarding apprenticeship training had been made by the Pharmacy Board and that legislation dealing with the proposals was under consideration. He thought that the Council should have been in possession of all the details. At Mr. Long's suggestion it was agreed that the Board be asked to supply details of the proposals and that further consideration be given to this matter at the next meeting of the Council.

**Finance.**—The Hon. Treasurer presented the monthly financial statements and accounts totalling £3604/12/9 were submitted for payment.

The meeting then adjourned.



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# QUEENSLAND

## PERSONAL and GENERAL

## State News

Members desiring publication of personal items of interest are invited to write or telephone details to the Journal Correspondent in Queensland, Miss D. Brighouse, 'phone B 8407.

**David's Pharmacies** have established a pharmacy in McWhirters' Emporium, Valley.

**Mr. J. E. G. Cairns** has opened a pharmacy at Old Cleveland road, Camp Hill.

**Mr. R. J. Nance**, of McIlwraith avenue, Coorparoo, is opening a branch at Dornoch Terrace, West End.

**Mr. C. W. Noble**, who has been in business at Milton road, Auchenflower, for the past twenty-eight years, has sold his pharmacy to **Mr. Barry Gainsford**.

**Interstate Visitors** to Brisbane during the month included **Miss Marjorie Andrews**, of Tasmania, who was renewing friendship with members of the Association of Women Pharmaceutical Chemists, and **Miss Doris Smith**, formerly in business at Footscray (Vic.), who was visiting Queensland friends.

## DISCUSSION GROUP

The Discussion Group met on November 6, when approximately twenty members heard a talk by Mr. W. Schubert, of the Dept. of Agriculture and Stock. Mr. Schubert dealt with Bacteria and Milk, and those who attended found the evening very interesting.

It has been decided to hold the next Discussion Group meeting on Wednesday, February 20, 1957. Prior notification of the meeting will be sent to all members.

## QUEENSLAND CHEMISTS' GOLF CLUB

On October 28, the Queensland Chemists' Golf Club played an 18 hole event at the Nudgee Links, with the following results:

"A" Grade Stableford—M. Lee (29 points).  
 "B" Grade Stableford—C. Andrew (32 points).  
 Four Ball Aggregate Stableford—K. Molloy and J. McSweeney (61 points).

Associates—Miss N. Adams (28 points).

Nearest the Pin—J. Lehmkase.

Visitors' Trophy—D. Burnett.

Putting Competition—M. Lee.

The next outing is the final day at Oxley, on December 2, and the competition will decide the winners of the Kenneth Mitchell and Queensland Chemists' Golf Trophies.

The Big Social Evening is at Virginia Club House on the evening of November 30.

## CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS' AWARD

Following the hearing in the Industrial Court, Brisbane, on October 4, of an application by the Chemists' Assistants' Union for increased wages for personnel working under the Chemists' Assistants' Award, the Court announced several weeks later that an increase of 10/- per week had been granted to all employees working under this award.

The Court allowed an increase of 19/- per week to apprentices.

These increases became effective as from October 8.

On October 26, the basic wage in Queensland was increased 4/- per week for adult males, 2/6 for adult females, and juniors half those amounts.

As wages for male and female under the Chemists' Assistants' Award are the same in Queensland, wages for employees under this Award have now been increased by 14/- per week and apprentices by 21/- per week.

## INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION RESULTS

Congratulations to the following students, who were successful at the Intermediate Examination conducted by the Pharmacy Board in October:

Misses M. F. Duffield, C. A. Ferguson, D. A. Fraser, M. L. Grigg, M. A. Kelly, J. M. McCabe, C. Ritchie, J. M. Simonds, D. M. Smith, P. M. Stark, H. J. Summerson, J. M. Trower, E. M. Versace, S. Woxen, M. B. Flynn, M. F. Connors, J. A. Sheppard, E. M. Smallhorn, J. E. Phillips.

Messrs. G. D. Bodimeade, J. F. Byrne, N. V. Casey, P. M. Crittenden, W. A. Edwards, G. M. Fyson, J. J. Gardiner, B. A. Gordon, R. T. Hawkins, P. L. Hickey, J. C. Hodges, K. R. Horne, D. J. LeCornu, T. L. G. McDonnell, J. O. Pritchard, A. R. Prout, R. C. Rao, J. R. W. Scott, R. G. Seib, D. J. T. Storie, F. W. Towler, R. F. West, T. A. White, W. A. Williams, R. R. Wilson, W. D. Hobart, K. J. Hausler, K. C. Rush.

Posts were granted to the following:

Misses D. B. F. Allen, J. Trotter, J. Neylan; Messrs. P. R. Connors, K. M. Strain, R. A. O'Toole, L. R. Cadzow, J. D. Grayson, G. Mathiou, N. G. Y. Nabi, J. G. Taylor.

## CHEMISTS' BOWLING NOTES

This month there was an afternoon game at Redcliffe, on November 4—the final Sunday afternoon game for the year. Sixteen members joined in, the scores being:

	Chemists	Redcliffe
McWatters, Richardson, Coffey, Hall	28	23
Clarke, Brown, Waldron, Dr. Watters	28	21
Roush, Ure, Colville, Bell	30	21
Allison, Chapman, Howe, Ward	22	35
	108	99

Hall's rink won the trophy spoons for the afternoon's play.

The final game for the year was played at President Lou Hall's club on November 14, at Gaythorne. It took the form of two rounds pairs competition. Ten pairs participated, the winners being Daniells and Allison. Runners-up were Riddell and Fitzsimmons.

Following play an informal tea was enjoyed at 6.30 p.m., when a number of members and friends came along and joined in. After tea, several members showed films which they had taken during the year. Len Kelly, with his piano-accordion, led a "sing-song," and those present felt it was a good wind-up for the activities of the club for the year.

The club is now in recess until the annual meeting in February, 1957.

## NEW COUNCILLOR, PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

At this month's meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, the President, Mr. R. V. S. Martin, extended a welcome to a new Councillor—**Miss Gladys Elliot**—who fills the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs. L. Carlson.

Miss Elliot was a pupil of Somerville House, Brisbane, for her secondary education, and on passing her senior she became apprenticed to her father, the late Mr. C. McD. Elliot, of Gympie. Miss Elliot, after qualifying in 1932, returned to Gympie to join her father in the pharmacy. On her father's death in 1943, Miss

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(Branch Secretary, F. W. Avenell.)

## QUEENSLAND—Continued

Elliot took over the management of the pharmacy until it was sold in 1947. After that Miss Elliot took locum positions, and for the past four years she has been managing Barber's Pharmacy at Coorparoo.

Miss Elliot was one of the foundation members of the Queensland Association of Women Pharmaceutical Chemists, having served on the Committee and held office as Secretary. Miss Elliot now holds office as Treasurer of the Federation of Women Pharmaceutical Chemists of Australia. She has attended several Interstate meetings of the Federation and also visited the other States for meetings of the Pharmaceutical Association.

When she can find some leisure time, Miss Elliot enjoys gardening and a game of golf.

It is hoped that Miss Elliot's association with the Council of the Society will be a long and pleasant one.

## Council Meeting

### PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland met at Drysdales Chambers, Brisbane, on October 11, at 8 p.m.

**Attendance.**—Mr. R. V. S. Martin (President), Miss Chalmers, Messrs. L. A. Stevens, R. S. F. Greig, K. Woods, J. E. McCaskie, G. R. Wells, I. Young, B. Page, J. S. D. Mellick, and the Secretary.

Miss G. Elliott was also present by invitation.

The President said he wished to extend a welcome to Miss Elliot. He hoped the Council would impress her sufficiently that she would agree to fill the vacancy caused by Mrs. Carlson's resignation.

Mr. Martin said he also desired to welcome back to the Council Mr. Young, and trusted that he would be able to continue his association with the Council.

**Election of Office-bearers for 1956-57.**—The President said this being the first Council meeting since the annual meeting, the first item on the agenda was the election of office-bearers for the ensuing year. He vacated the chair and asked the Secretary to call for nominations for the position of President.

The elections resulted as follows:—

**President:** Mr. R. V. S. Martin.

**Vice-President:** Mr. L. A. Stevens.

**Hon. Treasurer:** Mr. J. E. McCaskie.

**Appointment of Sub-Committees.**—Mr. Martin announced his appointment of sub-committees for the ensuing year, which were:—

**Social:** Messrs. F. M. Woods, L. A. Stevens and I. Young.

**Finance:** Messrs. R. V. S. Martin, L. A. Stevens and J. E. McCaskie.

**Discussion Group:** Messrs. L. A. Stevens, G. R. Wells and J. E. McCaskie.

**"A.P.F."**: Miss Chalmers, Messrs. R. S. F. Greig, G. R. Wells.

**Liaison:** Messrs. R. V. S. Martin, L. A. Stevens and J. S. D. Mellick.

**Bulletin:** Mr. J. S. D. Mellick.

**Technical Committee:** Messrs. R. S. F. Greig, J. S. D. Mellick, B. F. Page and I. Young.

**Library:** Miss Chalmers.

**Journal Readers:** "A.J.P.", Mr. B. F. Page; "Pharmacy International," Mr. G. R. Wells; British Pharmaceutical Journals, Mr. I. Young.

**Discussion Group.**—Mr. Stevens said he had been giving thought to the next meeting of the Group. He

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had been told of an interesting talk over the A.B.C. by Mr. Schubert, of the Department of Agriculture and Stock, who spoke on Milk. He wondered if a similar talk by Mr. Schubert would be of interest to members attending the Discussion Group. He considered that it would be a subject which would be of interest to pharmacy.

Members agreed that the subject should prove of interest, and it was resolved that Mr. Stevens approach Mr. Schubert to see if he could give a similar talk to members of the Discussion Group.

**Meeting with Wholesale Representatives Concerning Narcotics.**—Minutes of meeting held on September 25 were tabled. At this meeting Guild and Society representatives were present, also representatives from various wholesale druggists. Mr. Noble, of D.H.A., and Mr. Martin, President of the Society, reported on their interview with Dr. Fryberg, State Director-General of Health, on September 18, concerning the delivery of narcotics from wholesalers to pharmacies.

Mr. Greig moved, Mr. Mellick seconded, that the report be received and adopted.

Mr. Mellick said he would also like recorded in the minutes the appreciation of the Council to those members who had given so much of their time to this question. Seconded by Mr. Woods. Carried.

**Consideration of List of Minimum Equipment.**—The list as recommended at a recent meeting of the Liaison Committee had been made available to members for their perusal.

Mr. Greig moved that the items be taken seriatim. Seconded by Mr. Woods. Carried.

Consideration was given to each item. It was agreed that some items listed be deleted, and recommendations were put forward for the inclusion of others.

Mr. Greig moved that the additions and deletions as recommended be agreed to, and the list as amended be now submitted to the Director-General of Health. Carried.

**Correspondence.**—To Mr. H. A. Braithwaite, of Melbourne, regretting that he has retired from the Chairmanship of the Australasian Pharmaceutical Publishing Company Ltd., and expressing appreciation of his work during the years he occupied this position.

To Mr. N. C. Cossar, congratulating him on his election as Chairman of the Publishing Company and extending best wishes for every success in his new position.

To Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, advising that members of this Council were interested to read of the film on aseptic technique produced by its films sub-committee, and inquiring if there are any copies of this film for sale, and, if so, the cost.

To Mr. Shaw, Secretary of the Students Society, advising that if the Students Society can guarantee full support, this Council will be willing to arrange a First Aid Course for first year students next year. Those who attend 75 per cent. of the lectures and sit for the examination will have their fees refunded by this Society.

To Mrs. L. Carlson, advising that her resignation from the Council has been accepted with great regret, and thanking her for her services whilst a member of the Council.

To Mr. L. Powell, expressing regret on the Council learning of his illness and wishing him an early restoration to health and strength.—Reply expressing appreciation of the good wishes extended to him and advising that he resumed duty on October 1.

From B.M.A., acknowledging copies of corrigenda for A.P.F. and stating that members of the Association are being informed that they are available through their office.

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## QUEENSLAND—Continued

From Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria, (1) Forwarding for this Society's library several copies of the Dose Book produced by the Victorian Society. (2) Forwarding copy of material for inclusion in the next issue of the A.P.F. Bulletin and inquiring if this Society is still desirous of participating.

From Miss Beryl Savage, advising she is leaving for overseas at the end of the year and applying for leave of absence from Society membership for 12 to 18 months.—Mr. Greig moved, Mr. Mellick seconded, that leave of absence be granted Miss Savage, and that she be furnished with a letter of introduction from this Society.

From Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa advising that it is organising a museum and library. As it is desired to have it of world-wide application, inviting donations of suitable material from kindred societies.—It was felt that Dr. Herbert or Mr. Cribb would possibly be able to assist, and it was resolved that this be kept in mind for the future.

**New Members Elected.**—Mr. R. Webster, Noosaville; Mr. F. S. Kentish, Mundubbera; and Miss Lorraine Haslam, Coorparoo.

**Reports.**—In view of the lateness of the hour, it was resolved that reports be allowed to stand over until next meeting.

**Medical Register for 1956.**—The Secretary reported that this list was now available. Copies had been procured for those who applied for a copy and they had been despatched to the members concerned.

**Christmas Social Function.**—Following last year's successful Christmas function, it was resolved that a similar function be held this year to wind up the year's activities. It was agreed that if possible the function be held on November 29.

Mr. Greig moved that members and their wives be invited to attend this function and arrangements for same be left in the hands of the Social Sub-Committee. Seconded by Mr. McCaskie. Carried.

The meeting closed at 11 p.m.

### THE GUILD

*S.R.C.  
Meeting*

The State Branch Committee of the Queensland Branch of the Guild met at Drysdale Chambers, Brisbane, on November 1, at 8 p.m.

**Attendance.**—Messrs. C. A. Nichol (Vice-President) in the Chair, Messrs. W. E. Martin, F. H. Phillips, L. Hall, R. M. Ward, A. Bell, L. W. Huxham, C. W. Noble, and the State Secretary.

**Narcotics.**—Report on result of questionnaire and interview with Dr. Fryberg concerning delivery of narcotics from wholesalers to pharmacists.

Mr. Hall reported that since last meeting Mr. Lenehan, Mr. Noble and he had studied the questionnaires which had been returned by country members concerning delivery of narcotics. All members mentioned the time and delay that would be involved in the State Director-General's ruling. Mr. R. V. S. Martin, President of the Society, and Mr. Noble, of D.H.A., and he had waited on Dr. Fryberg the previous week.

After hearing Mr. Hall's report, Mr. Phillips moved that Mr. Hall's report be received and adopted. Seconded by Mr. Bell. Carried.

**Applications for Membership:**

**Reinstatement:** Mr. R. H. Winterflood, Maryborough.

**New Member Elected:** Mr. J. E. G. Cairns, Camp Hill.

**Correspondence.**—To Hon. A. Jones, M.L.A., pointing out that many pharmacists live on or near their pharmacies and they can be readily contacted for the supply or dispensing of medicines urgently required; also drawing attention to the fact that the classified section of the new Telephone Directory provides the names and telephone numbers of many chemists who are available for **after-hour dispensing**. In view of these circumstances, plus the fact that several after-hour dispensing services have been established in the metropolitan area within recent years, it is the considered opinion of this State Branch Committee that Brisbane is now well catered for with such after-hour dispensing services.—Reply noting the opinion of the Committee.

Medical Benefits Fund of Australia, inquiring the correct action to take when Interstate visitors ask pharmacists to receive medical benefit payments. Reply advising that Queensland chemist agents should not accept payments from contributors who are only visiting Queensland. Such contributions must be forwarded to the office in the State to which the visitors contribute. Pointing out the procedure to be adopted if the contributor is now a permanent resident of Queensland.

To G. R. Cullen & Co. forwarding copies of new "Gilseal" label and asking that the necessary action be taken to register the design and also the colour if that is possible.—The Secretary reported that Mr. Cullen telephoned and advised that it was impossible to register a colour. The only thing that could be registered was the word "Gilseal" and the Guild seal. He said if this had not been done, it should have been many years ago. The Secretary said she informed Mr. Cullen that she felt certain this action would have been taken federally, but she would make inquiries and let him know. She had accordingly written to the Federal Secretary and was now awaiting advice.

To Mr. M. J. C. Woodward, wishing him a speedy return to health and strength, and forwarding a book and sweets with the Committee's good wishes. Reply expressing thanks for the good wishes and also the parcel which had been sent to him.

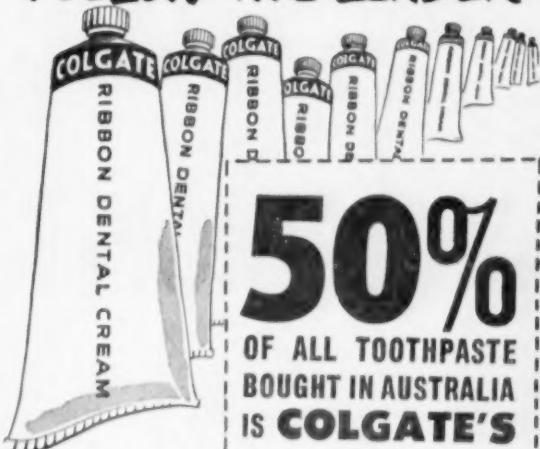
From Pharmacy Board, Queensland, advising that the Board is giving consideration to a scheme whereby it can take post graduate study to pharmaceutical chemists outside the metropolitan area. The Board hopes to come to some concrete conclusions early in the New Year.

From Mr. A. E. Conolly, N.S.W. Branch Secretary, expressing appreciation of the letter of thanks concerning the current edition of the retail list. Stating it is most encouraging to receive a letter such as has been received and in N.S.W. they look forward with eagerness to producing future lists.

From Mr. C. W. Noble, stating he wishes to be relieved of his duties as representative to the Industrial Court. He feels that it would be in the best interests of the Committee if some other member was appointed for these duties.—Mr. Nichol said he could assure Mr. Noble that there was no reflection on him concerning the recent court hearing. The Committee stood behind him. He had represented the Guild very capably at such hearings in the past, and the Committee was very grateful to him for the services he had rendered. Mr. Nichol said Mr. Noble had done a lot of work on this particular Committee concerning wages. It was not easy work. It was not a position that people sought. The Committee should record their thanks to Mr. Noble for the very good services he had rendered in the past on behalf of the Guild in the Industrial Court. They appreciated most sincerely the work Mr. Noble had done.

Mr. Phillips said he wished to endorse the remarks made by Mr. Nichol. Mr. Noble had done a mighty job.

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Backed by strong-selling national advertisements, all carrying the Chemists' Guild Insignia, and attractive display material.

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**means more sales**  
**more sales mean**  
**MORE PROFIT!**



## QUEENSLAND—Continued

Mr. Martin said there was no question that this Committee was very satisfied with Mr. Noble's representation. He moved that Mr. Noble's resignation be accepted and that the appreciation of the Committee for the excellent representation Mr. Noble has given the Guild over the years in the Industrial Court be recorded in the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Huxham. Carried.

Mr. Noble said he proposed to obtain a copy of the transcript of the evidence and make it available to this office.

From Miss Everett, Secretary Women Pharmacists Association, expressing the Association's thanks for the use, rent free, of the new room, which is considered most attractive and commodious. Stating the Association would like to establish a memorial in the new room in memory of Miss Underwood and Mrs. Grant. Seeking approval of this suggestion and welcoming any suggestions for a suitable piece of furniture.—Members agreed that they would give consideration to a suitable piece of furniture and perhaps some decision could be reached at next meeting. The Secretary of the Women Pharmacists to be notified accordingly.

From Chamber of Commerce, announcing the annual fork dinner to be held at Rowes on November 8. It was agreed that if Mr. Delahunty was able he should represent the Guild at that function.

**Federal Delegate's Report on Annual Federal Council Meeting.**—Mr. Martin said he had arranged with the Secretary to prepare some notes and circulate them to members prior to the meeting so they would have an idea of the discussion on the various remits.

After perusal and discussion of the report of the Federal Council meeting, Mr. Phillips moved, Mr. Noble seconded, that the Federal Delegate's report be received. Carried.

**Pharmacy Board.**—Mr. Nichol reported on matters engaging the attention of the Board.

**Illness of Mr. Chater.**—Mr. Huxham said he felt sure that all members would be sorry to learn of Mr. Chater's indisposition, and he thought it fitting that a letter be sent from this meeting conveying the regrets of his colleagues on the Committee on learning of his illness and wishing him a speedy restoration to health and strength. On Mr. Huxham moving accordingly, the motion was seconded by Mr. Martin and carried.

**Merchandising Stickers.**—Mr. Hall suggested that the Merchandising Department might bring out some stickers three or four times a year. He had in mind something in selotape with "Guild Chemist" or similar wording to tie up the Guild and Pharmacy.

Members commended this suggestion, and it was resolved that inquiries be made of the Merchandising Section to see what could be done.

**Retirement of Mr. Noble.**—Mr. Noble reported that he had a buyer for his pharmacy—he would probably be selling within a fortnight, and in those circumstances this would probably be his last committee meeting. He had been in business for 28 years and now had other interests to which he would devote his time and energies.

Mr. Nichol said the Committee would miss Mr. Noble very much. He had been a tower of strength and looked after the finances very capably over the years. He would be missed from the Committee table, and while he and the other members were sorry to lose him from the Committee, they sincerely thanked him for his services over the years and extended to him best wishes for the future.

The meeting closed at 11.15 p.m.



- Selling showcards
- Good stocks
- Generous mark-up
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- Big winter seller

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Here's an advertising story

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## REAL PROFITS

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Now's your chance to catch up on profits from Nivea's really big sales promotion. Advertising four times greater than before—full color pages in women's magazines—the usual selling showcards—window and counter displays—useful counter dispensers. You must get behind Nivea Creme (Tins, Tubes) and Nivea Skin Oil to get your share of the increased sales. Stocks are adequate at the moment—see your wholesaler NOW! Mark up is tops, and generous parcel discounts ring up extra profits.



NIVEA Creme (Tins or tubes), NIVEA Skin Oil (Liquid Form) — Smith & Nephew (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., 66 Reservoir St., Sydney N.S.W.

# SOUTH AUSTRALIA

## PERSONAL and GENERAL

## State News

Members desiring publication of personal items of interest are invited to write or telephone details to the Journal Correspondent in S.A., Mr. E. F. Lipsham.

**Mr. B. Middlemiss** visited Renmark in the early part of November to act as locum for Mr. R. Wheeler.

**Mr. J. Pain** is reported to have reached New Zealand on his way home from Europe.

**Mr. W. Nicholls** is now recorded as the manager for F.S.M.A. at their Hawthorne Branch.

**Mr. J. R. Mitchells** is now managing Freeman's—Chemists, Hindley street.

**Miss J. M. Hodgson**, of New South Wales, has joined the S.A. Register under reciprocal arrangements.

**Mr. T. Newson** has secured the services of Mr. J. J. Kelly to manage his branch shop at Bridgewater.

**Mr. A. Hodgson** was in charge of Tiver and Tiver's pharmacy, Glenelg, during the absence of Mr. A. Tiver early in November.

**Mr. J. M. White** has resigned his position as manager of the Pier Pharmacy, Glenelg, and purchased the pharmacy conducted by Mr. A. Lower at Tranmere.

**Mr. W. Vivian** relieved Mr. F. Streicher, of Port Augusta, and Mr. J. Bourne, of Maitland, during October.

**Mr. H. G. Collyer**, President of the S.A. Branch of the Guild, visited Melbourne during October for the meeting of the Federal Council of that organisation. Mr. L. C. Norman was in charge during his absence.

**Mr. B. Thompson** is expected home for Christmas on a month's vacation. He will then return to the Darwin Hospital for a few months before embarking for England in July of next year.

**Mr. R. Spafford** relieved Mr. Walter C. Cotterell, of St. Peters, whilst he attended the meeting of the Federal Council of the Guild held in Melbourne last month. Mr. Spafford then assisted Mr. C. A. M. Reid, of Anzac highway, Glenelg, for the remainder of the month.

**Mrs. G. Stretton**, formerly of Queensland, has been assisting Mr. A. A. Russell, of Hyde Park, so that he could be absent from his pharmacy when he was organising the Guild's campaign of resisting a governmental reduction of professional fees for dispensing.

After 18 months absence **Miss Y. Fricker** has arrived home on the Southern Cross from Europe, via Melbourne. Her first position was as locum for Mr. P. Kiepert, of Kensington, after which she went to Mrs. L. Gilchrist, of Plympton.

**Mr. R. Burlinson** went to Strathalbyn in the middle of October to assist Mr. R. E. Martin. He then visited Murray Bridge under engagement to Mr. C. Pfeiffer before finishing the month at Stirling West to allow Mr. D. C. Hill, member of the Pharmacy Board, to take part in the examination of third year students.

**The Rev. Father Peter Lock** has now returned to Australia after a four-year domicile in Rome. After visiting his parents in Adelaide he went to Melbourne to take up a teaching appointment in a college for boys.

**Mr. A. R. Williams** has been helping Mr. G. Somerville, of Grote street, Adelaide, and Mr. D. G. Mitchell, of Black Forest, during the end of October and well into November.

**Mr. Stow Kentish** is to be married next June. In the meantime he has bought an established pharmacy in Mundubbera in Queensland which keeps a staff of six girls engaged. Mundubbera is on the River Burnett,

which is 270 miles north-west of Brisbane. Maryborough on the coast is due east and 120 miles distant. The nearest town is Gayndah, some 30 miles away. The western side of Mundubbera gets into the area of the flying doctor services, but still provides him with customers within a radius of 80 miles. Mundubbera area engages in dairying, fig orchards and groves of citrus fruits, with a sawmill not far away. The river is controlled by a weir and so provides facilities for swimming and speed boat racing.

### BIRTHS

**Fisher**.—To Joy and Robert—a daughter. October 18, Calvary.

**Boniley**.—On October 23, at Mount Pleasant, to Pat and Deryck—a son.

### PRIZE FOR ELEMENTARY PHARMACY

The Council of The Pharmaceutical Society at their November meeting accepted the offer of **Mr. J. H. Hardy**, of Hutt street, Adelaide, to donate a prize for the best student in the subject of Elementary Pharmacy taken during the first year course of study at the University of Adelaide.

### DISTILLED SPIRIT "FOR MEDICINAL PURPOSES"

The operator of an illicit still at Royal Park had told police he made spirit for medicinal purposes, it was stated when Stanislav Skiba, labourer, of Clovelly avenue, Royal Park, was charged before Mr. L. F. J. Johnston, S.M., on October 26 with having been in possession of the still.

He pleaded not guilty to the charge and to a further charge of having had in his possession on August 17 material intended for distillation.

Appearing on a separate charge, but accused of having been in joint possession of the same still, was Dymtro Szermerewycz, 47, press operator, of the same address.

He pleaded not guilty.

Mr. C. R. Colquhoun, of the Crown Solicitor's office, prosecuting, said the two men had admitted that operation of the still was a joint venture.

Skiba was fined a total of £100 on the two charges, with £8/6/- costs.

Szermerewycz was fined £75, with £6/4/- costs.

### ANNUAL CHEMISTS' GOLF DAY

The annual chemists' golf match, organised by N.S.C. chemists, took place at the Glenelg Golf Links on October 31. It was a good day for golf insofar as a stiff north-west breeze played havoc with any balls not hit truly. Despite these conditions, chemists, representatives and executive officers of wholesale and distributing houses enjoyed themselves.

Owing either to the difficult reliever situation or to the troubled international situation, there were not as many chemists this year as usual. Discussions have since taken place as to whether a Sunday might be a better day next year, even though perhaps a championship course might not be available. Consideration is also being given to the suggestion that a picnic day be held so that the wives and families of all concerned could attend. This will be determined about March or April next year.

After the tournament was played, Messrs. K. Anderson, of Horlicks Pty. Ltd., and A. J. Norman, of Glandular Products Pty. Ltd., checked all the cards, and in doing so did a fine job for which they have N.S.C. chemists' thanks.

When all the trophies had been presented to the winners by the representatives of the donor firms, Mr. P. Furley, Managing Director of D.H.A. (S.A.) Ltd.,



*For the peptic ulcer patient  
BEDEVILLED BY NIGHT PAIN*



## AMPHOJEL

Registered Trade Mark

ALUMINUM HYDROXIDE GEL



AMPHOJEL helps patients sleep by neutralizing acid promptly . . . promoting pain relief through the night. A double dose at bedtime will effectively control "night pain" in most patients.

AMPHOJEL is a double gel — one reactive, for immediate buffering of gastric acid; the other, demulcent, for prolonged coating of the gastric mucosa — protection for the granulation tissue in the ulcer crater.

**PRES**ENTATION: Bottles of 12 fluid ounces.

Also available: AMPHOTABS (Amphojel Tablets) in boxes of 60 tablets.

**Ethical Promotion:** Actively promoted to include personal detailing, medical sampling, regular circularisation, and journal advertisements.

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## SOUTH AUSTRALIA—Continued

said on behalf of all present he would like again to thank Mr. C. L. Tucker for organising the match so successfully as he had done for the past 16 years. He further said he regretted the inability of so many chemists not being able to attend such a good day, and he would give sympathetic consideration to any suggestions for an altered day.

Mr. Tucker, in reply, after thanking Mr. Furier, said that the day was built around the Bickford Cup, and the question of a new day would be looked into. The N.S.C. would be prepared to carry out the organisation of the annual match in subsequent years with the assistance and co-operation of all those concerned, and particularly those firms who so generously gave trophies. These were agreed to be the finest collection of trophies competed for in these events.

Donations were received from the following companies:—D.H.A. (S.A.) Ltd., Pharmaceutical Supplies Ltd., Frederick Stearns & Co. Division of Sterling Drug Inc., F. H. Faulding & Co. Ltd., Laxettes Pty. Ltd., Wyeth International Ltd., Parke, Davis & Co. Ltd., Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. (Aust.) Ltd., Edinburgh Laboratories, Kodak (A'sia) Pty. Ltd., Dunlop Rubber (Aust.) Ltd., Johnson & Johnson Pty. Ltd., Colgate Palmolive Pty. Ltd., Bristol-Myers Co. Pty. Ltd., Nicholas Pty. Ltd., Allen & Hanburys (A'sia) Ltd., Wilson Advertising Service Ltd., Glandular Products Pty. Ltd., Horlicks Pty. Ltd., Alfred Lawrence & Co. Ltd., and N.S.C. Chemists.

Results of the matches were as follows:—

### Chemists' Event

#### Stableford—

Best Net Score.—1st, E. L. Hammat; 2nd, R. C. Gray.

#### Four Ball Aggregate—

1st pair, D. Moriarty and E. L. Hammat; 2nd pair, R. C. Gray and R. Michael; 3rd pair, T. A. Clerk and L. A. F. Payne.

#### Best Net Score—

First Nine Holes.—1st, R. F. Gwynne; 2nd, J. Hardy.

Second Nine Holes.—1st, R. K. Frost; 2nd, R. M. T. Cox.

#### Best off the Stick.—R. C. Gray.

#### Hidden Six No. 1—

1st, J. L. Gameau; 2nd, R. K. Ali.

#### Hidden Six No. 2—

1st, D. Moriarty; 2nd, R. M. T. Cox.

#### Putting Competition—

1st, R. C. Gray; 2nd, T. A. Clerk; 3rd, L. A. F. Payne.

### Wholesalers' Event

#### Stableford—

Best Net Score.—R. Kuring.

Four Ball Aggregate.—1st pair, E. Munro and P. Furier.

#### Best off the Stick.—A. J. Norman.

#### Putting Competition.—K. Anderson.

## PHARMACY BOARD

### Monthly Meeting

The Pharmacy Board of South Australia met at 27 Grenfell street, Adelaide, on October 17, at 7.55 p.m.

**Present.**—Mr. K. S. Porter (President) in the chair, Messrs. E. F. Lipsham, L. A. Craig, B. F. Mildren, D. C. Hill, A. E. Bowey, and the Assistant Registrar.

**Special Reports.**—The Assistant Registrar reported that a direction given by the Board to Mr. R. L. Daniel following the recent enquiry under Section 19 of the Pharmacy Act had been met. It was resolved that a report of the enquiry be forwarded to "The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy" for publication, following the usual practice in such cases.

Acting on legal advice the Board had invited a pharmaceutical chemist to attend the meeting for the purpose of offering an explanation in person to his alleged conduct while being the proprietor-manager of a shop. A series of questions was put by the President, and the answers were noted by Board members. The President pointed out that the meeting was not in the nature of a formal enquiry under Section 19 at this stage, and the chemist involved had expressed his willingness to answer any question put to him, to the best of his ability. At the conclusion the President pointed out that when the chemist concerned became the proprietor or manager of another pharmacy he must be careful to see that he or some other pharmaceutical chemist must always be in attendance while the premises were open. The other responsibilities were pointed out to him, and he was told that in future the Board would expect him to adhere strictly to such. He then gave a verbal undertaking in this regard and withdrew from the meeting. After discussion on the answers given to the questions directed to him, it was resolved that no further action be taken, based on a complaint which had already been received regarding his conduct at his former premises.

**Correspondence.**—To Mr. G. L. Burns, expressing regret at recent illness.

To Lord Mayor of Adelaide, acknowledging receipt of circular letter and advising that Board has no power to make donations from its funds.

To Pharmacy Board of Victoria, forwarding on request three copies of Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Regulations and Schedules.

To Pharmacy Board of Tasmania, forwarding on request copy of Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Act.

From Pharmacy Board of Victoria, forwarding ex-

## A NEW TWO-PHASE ASTHMA THERAPY



## ISO-BRONCHISAN Double Action Tablets

**Composition:** Isoprenaline Sulphate, Ephedrine Hydrochlor., Theophylline.

#### Directions:

1. At the first signs of an asthmatic attack place one tablet under the tongue and leave it there for exactly one minute.

2. At the end of a minute swallow the rest of the tablet with a small drink of water.

The therapeutic contents are carefully balanced so that the long-acting nucleus takes over from the outer layer of Isoprenaline Sulphate as this passes its peak.

Available from all leading wholesalers in packs of 20 and 100 tablets.

Manufactured by Silten Ltd., Hatfield, Herts, England.  
Literature and Samples from Australasian Representative,

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New Zealand.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA—Continued

tract of letter from Dr. T. L. Tyrer, of Australian Legation, Rome. Letter to Dr. Tyrer forwarding information re South Australian requirements.

From a chemist, asking for amplification of the provisions of the Pharmacy Act relating to restriction to number of open shops conducted by the Friendly Societies Medical Association Inc.

A letter of complaint was received regarding absence from a pharmacy of a registered pharmaceutical chemist. The Registrar's acknowledgment advising provisions of the Act was confirmed, and it was resolved to ask the chemist concerned for any comments he had to make regarding the allegation.

Copies of information issued by United Nations estimated world requirements of Narcotic Drugs in 1956 were tabled.

Letter to and from Pharmacy Board of Victoria, re proposed draft of circular entitled "Accidental Poisoning."

From F.P.S.G.A. (S.A. Branch) forwarding copy of card issued by Pharmacy Board of Victoria for display in pharmacy premises advising substances and their derivatives which may only be supplied to the public on a medical certificate. The letter asked the Board to adopt a card for use in this State, the distribution to be made through the Guild. As the relevant Act and Regulations were administered in South Australia by the Department of Public Health, it was resolved that the Department be advised of the request and informed that the Board is in favour of the principle involved and would appreciate the supply of a draft of the information for a suggested card in this State, covering commonly sought drugs.

From a pharmaceutical chemist of Cairo, asking for detail relating to employment in South Australia, and whether his Egyptian degree would be accepted. Information forwarded.

From a country chemist asking for particulars relating to country apprenticeships. Due to the difficulty in providing for apprentices in the country to attend city lectures in the new course, Mr. Lipsham agreed to draft a reply setting out details of the difficulties involved.

The Asst. Registrar advised of a telephone communication reporting advertising in the pink pages of the telephone directory, which appeared to be contrary to the Brisbane resolution on this matter. After discussion it was agreed that more cases of advertising had recently been detected outside the terms of the resolution and consequently that a review of the position should be made. Accordingly it was resolved that a sub-committee consisting of Messrs. Bowey and Hill be appointed to investigate the current position on advertising generally and report their findings and recommendations to the next meeting.

**P.A.A. Conference.**—Letter from Pharmaceutical Association of Australia asking for advice on any action which may have taken place or decided on regarding the remit on poisonous tablets passed at the Melbourne Conference. The matter was dealt with in sections covered by the four paragraphs detailing the principles involved as follows:

(a) Compulsory use of poison bottles for poisonous tablets when intended for other than internal therapeutic use. It was resolved that this matter be submitted to the State Department of Public Health as a recommendation from the Board covering poisonous tablets dispensed.

(b) Proscribing the use of poison containers for anything other than poisons. This was already the law in South Australia.

(c) Tablets (Poison) intended for external use to carry specific warning label (e.g., "keep out of reach of children"). Resolved that this item also be a recommendation of the Board to the State Department of Public Health.

(d) Poisonous tablets to be coloured with a specific colour and prohibition of the use of that colour for tablets intended to be used internally. Resolved that the Association be advised that the Board does not consider this action practical, and suggests the use of a distinctive shape as an alternative, including an embargo on the use of round as a shape for adoption.

Letter from and to Pharmaceutical Association of Australia regarding remit passed at conference on reciprocity. As this was a motion submitted by a South Australian delegate, it was resolved that the remit on reciprocity as passed at the conference be confirmed by this Board and that a reply be directed to the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia advising of such.

**Apprentices.**—Approval was given for the assignment of indenture of two apprentices.

The report of the examiners of Set II of Galenical Exercises was received, and the detail submitted duly noted. A general report containing a recommendation from the Examiners was also received and examined.

Correspondence from prospective applicants for admission to the course was tabled and replies confirmed.

The November Examination time table was considered by the Board.

**Election and Triennial Report.**—Letter to Mr. R. J. Guenther, advising of appointment as Returning Officer.

**Labels.**—Consideration was given to two sets of labels received and the attention of the chemists concerned was drawn to the Brisbane resolution regarding the prohibition of use of red on labels for medicines for internal use and also to the use of descriptions of qualifications exceeding those suggested by the Board as the qualifications for pharmaceutical chemists.

**Finance.**—Statement for the month of September was submitted and adopted and accounts totalling £67/14/6 were passed for payment.

**Practising Certificates.**—Certificates of Identity were forwarded to the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales and Victoria on behalf of Miss M. A. Evans, and to the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales for Mr. R. P. Clancy.

An application and statutory declaration was received from Miss M. Lister, of Great Britain, and approval granted for the issue of the necessary Practising Certificate.

**Relievers.**—Mr. D. G. Cocks to Messrs. R. K. Frost, Walter C. Cotterell, J. G. Somerville and to Messrs. J. F. Isaac and W. C. Wilson of Victoria. Mr. J. N. Cornish to Messrs. I. D. MacKinnon, E. G. Highman, Miss M. D. Campbell to Messrs. E. G. Highman, W. T. Taylor. Mr. O. R. Johnson to Mr. D. H. Peek. Mr. R. N. Spafford to Mr. J. M. Dixon. Miss B. S. Martin to Mr. C. D. Nicholas. Mr. J. V. Guthrie to Mr. A. H. Anderson. Mr. N. L. Carrig to Mr. R. Hole. Mr. J. M. Daly to Messrs. C. D. Nicholas and R. A. Hanna. Mr. R. L. Burlinson to Mr. C. E. Clyne. Mr. R. L. Jones to Mr. C. N. Pfeiffer.

**Important: Managing and Relieving Appointments to be Notified.**—The Board wishes to bring before the notice of all pharmaceutical chemists who are employed as managers and relieving managers, the provisions of Part VII (a) of the Regulations under the Pharmacy Act 1935-52, which provides that every registered pharmaceutical chemist shall immediately upon commencing employment as a manager or relieving manager give written notice to the Registrar of such, and also shall give similar notice immediately on the termination of such employment.



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You can make a cash profit of nearly fourpence on every regular size tablet; fivepence on bath size.

## REXONA OINTMENT NOW IN THIS HANDY TUBE

**Handy for your customers** — No mess, no fuss; they just squeeze out enough and replace the cap — so hygienic! They'll be buying it faster than ever.

**Handy for you** — easier on shelf space, easier to display, lighter to handle — and it will be faster-moving too. Popular demand is there — make sure you sell to it. Display at eye-level for impulse sales: up goes your turnover — up go your profits!



RT.FPT

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA—Continued

### PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

#### Council Meeting

The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia met at Alexandra Chambers, 27 Grenfell street, Adelaide, on November 6, at 7.45 p.m.

**Present.**—Mr. A. A. Russell (President) in the Chair, Messrs. E. F. Lipsham, K. D. Johnson, D. F. J. Penhall, J. R. Pickering, B. G. Wandke, Miss Z. M. Walsh, and the Assistant Secretary.

**Correspondence.**—Copies of newspaper cuttings received from Mr. K. G. Attiwill, Pharmaceutical Public Relations Secretariat, re press attack on pharmaceutical chemists in Victoria, and acknowledgment. These were taken for circulation among members who would submit comments if any.

Copy of Annual Report of Federal Pharmaceutical Public Relations Secretariat and acknowledgment. The President agreed to submit observations on any relevant points to the next meeting.

From Mr. P. G. Eggar, Berri, expressing thanks for inquiry re flood position in river towns.

From Pharmaceutical Association of Australia advising winner of 3rd Kodak Scholarship.

To and from Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa re suitable donations for their Museum, and advising that they will contact this Society and forward photographs when the project has progressed.

To Messrs. S. W. Fewell and R. A. Potter expressing appreciation of Council for lectures delivered to students.

To Mr. R. T. Patterson expressing appreciation of Council for gift of book.

**Students.**—Reports were submitted by Mr. Lipsham on various aspects of the 1956 lecture year in the Pharmacy Department.

**"The J. H. Hardy Prize."**—Letter to Mr. J. H. Hardy expressing appreciation of Council at gesture, and telephone message conveyed by the Asst. Secretary in support.

Members intimated that they had considered the relative merits of the two subjects mentioned in the previous meeting, and after discussion it was resolved that the J. H. Hardy Prize be awarded for the five years commencing with the November Examination 1956 to the most successful student of distinction standard in the subject of Elementary Pharmacy at the initial attempt in the first year of the course and that Mr. Hardy be advised accordingly.

**Finance.**—Statement for the month of October was submitted and adopted, and accounts totalling £762/15/0 were passed for payment.

Letter to Pharmaceutical Association of Australia, forwarding cheque for £9/9/- for Conference Travelling Expenses Equalisation Fund.

**P.A.A. Conference.**—Letter to Pharmaceutical Association of Australia drawing attention to our letter dated September 13, 1956, regarding B.P.C. Revision. Reply advising that a communication has not yet been forwarded to Great Britain due to slow replies from States. Received and noted.

**A.N.Z.A.A.S. Conference, Dunedin.**—It was resolved that a sub-committee consisting of Messrs. R. A. Anderson, A. E. Bowey and K. D. Johnson be appointed to receive and collate all relevant material which will be handed over after the Dunedin Meeting along the lines suggested in the letter of Mr. R. A. Anderson dated November 5, 1956. The information would then be available in proper order for the proposed 1958 meeting of Section "O" in Adelaide.

**Adelaide Conference.**—Letter to Pharmacy Board of South Australia regarding calling of meeting to discuss

plans for the forthcoming conference in Adelaide of the Pharmaceutical Association of Australia. The Asst. Secretary advised that the date provisionally fixed for a meeting of interested parties was found to be not suitable to all concerned, and it was left to the Asst. Secretary to endeavour to arrange an alternative date which would be agreeable to all parties.

**New Member Elected.**—Miss M. Lister (from Great Britain).

**New Rule 16 (2) (1).**—Letters to and from Mr. R. J. Wilson advising application approved and expressing his appreciation.

**Building Fund.**—Letter from F.P.S.G.A. (S.A. Branch) advising names of representatives and suggesting date for meeting, viz., October 31, 1956. Memo sent to Messrs. Russell, Penhall and Lipsham re proposed date of meeting. The Asst. Secretary advised that the date suggested was not suitable, and it was left to the Asst. Secretary to endeavour to arrange an alternative date which would be agreeable to all parties.

**Pharmaceutical-Medical Liaison Committee.**—Letter from British Medical Association suggesting reference of recent complaints to next meeting of Pharmaceutical-Medical Liaison Committee.

**Post Graduate Talks.**—The convenor, Mr. Penhall, reported briefly on the series of talks conducted in 1956, and advised that the matter was well in hand for reproduction of a précis of the talks in "The Australasian Journal of Pharmacy."

**Social Functions.**—The convenor (Mr. Penhall) stated that he had considered the matter further, but found it difficult to suggest any concrete proposition at this stage. After discussion and general agreement that it would be desirable to hold some official function, it was decided that some further consideration be given to the matter and a report made to the next meeting, having in mind a provision for a somewhat limited number in view of the obvious indecision by members of the Society generally on attending such functions.

### THE GUILD

#### S.B.C. Meeting

The State Branch Committee of the South Australian Branch of the Guild met at 254 Sturt street, Adelaide, on November 12, at 7.45 p.m.

**Present.**—The Vice-President (Mr. E. Lloyd Miller) in the chair, Messrs. A. C. Holloway, G. K. F. Scott, V. L. Mitchell, R. R. Patrick, A. R. Russell, A. G. Lean, Walter C. Cotterell and the Secretary.

**Report re Prices Branch, Etc.**—Mr. Russell gave a detailed report on this subject and presented a document to be sent to all members for reply. Resolved that the document be sent to all members, as requested.

**Christmas Hours.**—The following times were agreed to and the Secretary was instructed to notify all members with sheets accordingly:

December 25, Tuesday—Closed all day.  
December 26, Wednesday—Open all day.  
December 27, Thursday—Open all day.  
December 28, Friday—Open 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
December 29, Saturday—Open 9 a.m. to 12 noon.  
December 30, Sunday—Open 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
December 31, Monday—Open all day.  
January 1, Tuesday—Closed all day.

**Bristol Myers: Five Mile Limit.**—Bristol Myers Co. Pty. Ltd. to be notified that this State agrees.

**Show Cards re Tax Cards.**—Refer again to W.A. as to their costs.

**Retail Storekeepers' Association.**—Guild not in favour of composite special parcels.

**Southern Drug Co. re Special Packing.**—Committee to give consideration to adding to the Gilseal range and

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA—Continued

obtain report from the Trade & Commerce Committee of this State.

**New Members Elected.**—Mrs. Y. R. Phillips, Royston Park; Mr. J. M. White, Kensington Gardens.

**Federal Delegate's Report.**—The Federal Delegate (Mr. Cotterell) gave a resume on the following matters: Recognition of Mr. A. W. McGibbons and the late Orion Leggo; Invitation to pharmacy students to visit Guild Head Office; Alterations to Federal Constitution; State By-laws (resolved that Mr. Miller and Mr. Cotterell be a sub-committee to report to next meeting re By-laws); National Health Scheme; Bureau of Statistics; Trade & Commerce meeting; Medicine Scheme; Neilson Survey; Drug and Allied Trades Council; Christmas Advertising; "Family Circle"; Ipana; Heinz foods; Guild sponsored months; Colgate's stock shortages; Price Lists.

Resolved that Federal Office be commended for the production of the latest Ethical Price List.

**Pricing Officer's Report.**—The Pricing Officer (Mr. G. K. F. Scott) gave a resume on the following: Johnson & Johnson, Hudnells; The Pricing Sub-committee recommends that the range of "Gilseal" lines be increased to compare with the opposition numbers.

Resolved that the sub-committee be authorised to instruct the Southern Drug Co. Ltd. to increase the range as suggested to the meeting; Resolved that Stalwart & Potter Ltd. be authorised to supply the new type labels for "Gilseal" packs.

**Financial.**—The financial statement to 31/10/56 was approved and accounts amounting to £121/18/6 were passed for payment.

**Prices.**—Resolved that full confidence is placed in Messrs. Cotterell and Russell to handle all matters relative to the Prices Department.

**Heinz.**—Secretary to write to Merchandising Service relative to Heinz terms of payment.

**Christmas Festivities.**—Mr. Holloway extended the invitation of the President to an evening at Mr. Holloway's home at the expiry of the December meeting, and that the wives of members could congregate earlier. This was heartily appreciated.

**D. & P.**—A letter was read from Camille Photos in respect to D. & P. work. This matter was deferred for the time being.

**Napro Hair Lightener.**—Secretary to write to the company in terms as expressed at the meeting.

**Containers.**—Resolved that an appeal be made for an increase in container charges.

Secretary to write both D.H.A. and F.H.F. enquiring the respective quantity of containers in each carton and the respective costs thereof, both bottles and jars, and also the reasons why smaller quantities than carton lots are not supplied.

## PROFESSIONAL INTEGRITY

The profession of pharmacy is, and will continue to be, exactly what pharmacists by and large want it to be. It does little good for pharmacists to raise funds to improve public relations to convince the laity of their professional status and to do many other such things unless there exists in the minds and hearts of pharmacists generally the desire for greater professional integrity and the insistence that other pharmacists not treat this integrity lightly. We can and should police ourselves. It is not an impossible task. To exactly that degree that we work toward this end we will merit and receive public acceptance of our professional status.—Extract from "American Journal of Pharmacy" (Editorial by L. F. Tice).

## TRANSPORT AND STORAGE OF SALT

Salt, only second in importance to bread in our daily lives, has always been cheap and plentiful in Britain. As a basic chemical raw material it is of primary importance.

But salt, and particularly the domestic variety, requires transport, handling and packing, with such a low-priced basic product, charges for these must be kept to a minimum.

The Salt Division of Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd. has developed a new system of bulk handling which keeps costs down and obviates laborious handling of bags. The vacuum dried salt is carried in special vehicles and is pumped by compressed air direct from the vehicle into containers on the customer's premises.

Although all grades of salt have in the past been despatched in bulk, it was not always possible to discharge the delivery vehicles conveniently and economically. This was particularly true of dried vacuum salt which, because of its free-running nature, had to be sent in enclosed bottom-discharge hopper vehicles, with the result that only a few large users took bulk delivery. Most users took dried salt in bags in order to avoid having to provide, for their relatively small tonnages, the underground bins needed for bottom-discharge vehicles.

The new service offers many advantages and it should be of interest to relatively small users of salt as well as to large users. As the salt is discharged by means of compressed air it is unnecessary to use conveyors and elevators to take it from the vehicle to the customer's storage points. Further advantages are that the buyer, in addition to saving the cost of bags and of their handling within his works, economises on storage space.

The salt is discharged from the vehicle by means of compressed air through 4 in. bore armoured hose pipe, which is carried on the vehicle, and is connected to the intake pipe on the customer's premises. The salt can be carried to a height of 40 ft. and over a horizontal distance of 30 ft. at a rate of twenty tons per hour. The equipment can discharge to a greater height or distance, at a lower rate.—"Export Review," July, 1956.

## ADVANCES IN MEDICAL TREATMENT

The pharmacist of today should be indeed proud of his colleagues in the pharmaceutical and allied professions. Longer and healthier lives have resulted from the combined efforts of these health professions. New drugs, new surgical techniques, new diagnostic tests: all have contributed to longer life expectancies. The pharmaceutical profession has given medicine the tools to work with as far as new drugs are concerned. Today a few antibiotic capsules will do what a million pills or powders failed to do 20 years ago. From the following chart it is easy to see what the sulfa drugs and antibiotics have contributed to modern medicine. (The figures given represent the death rate per 100,000 population):

Disease	1935-		1947-		% Disease
	1937	1949	1947	1949	
Pneumonia—all forms	86.8	33.3	61%		
Rheumatic Fever	1.6	0.9	43%		
Cerebrospinal Meningitis	2.0	0.6	70%		
Tonsillitis & Pharyngitis	3.5	0.4	88%		
Diseases of Ear & Mastoid	3.1	0.4	85%		
Septicæmia	0.9	0.3	66%		
Enteritis & Diarrhoea	15.0	0.1	59%		
Appendicitis	12.5	2.9	76%		

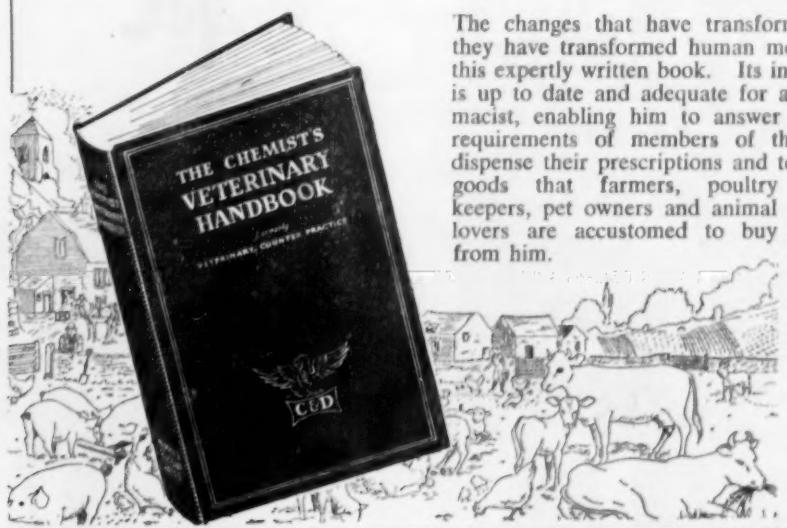
—Extract from article, "Handling Complaints About the High Cost of Medicine," in "American Professional Pharmacist."

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| Drug fever         | Serum sickness          |
| Anaphylactic shock |                         |
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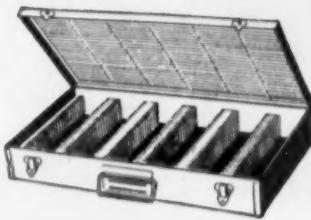
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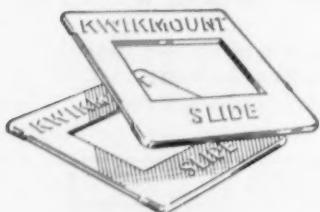
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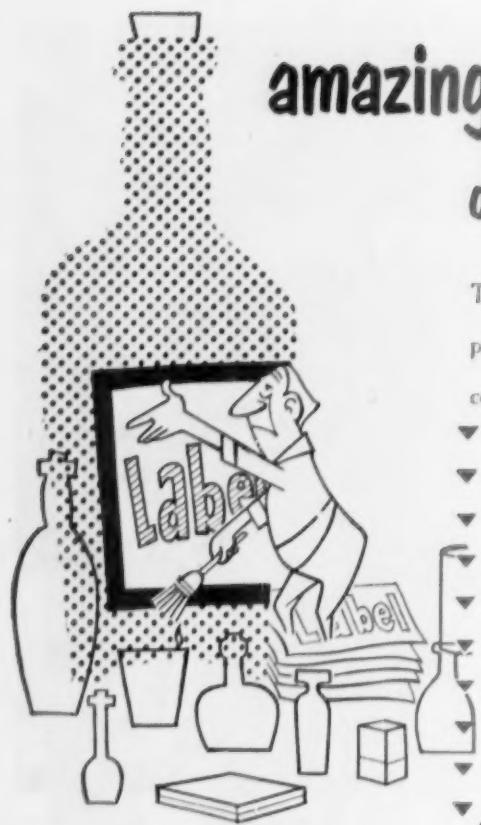


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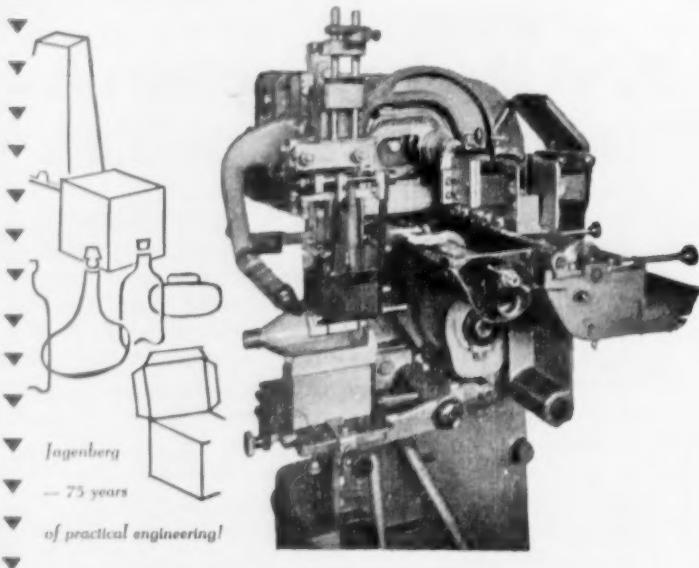
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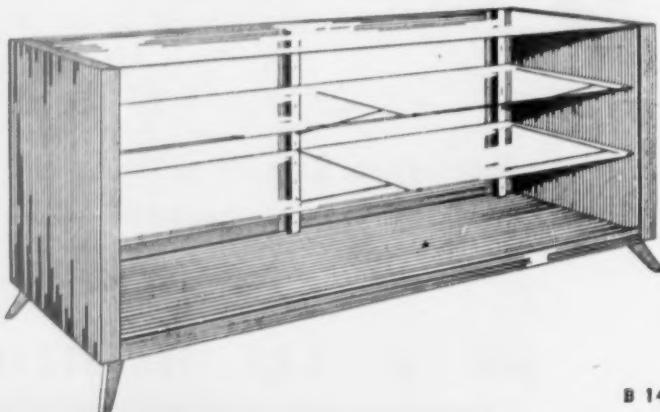
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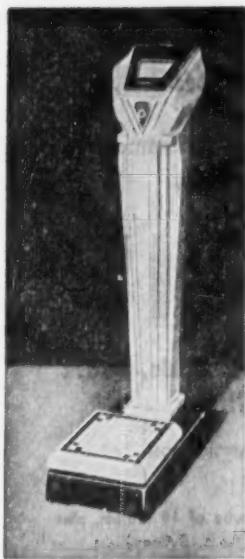
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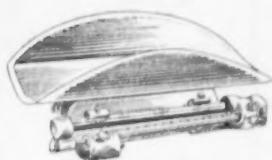
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Proveen Tablets . . . . .	43/6 per doz.	RETAIL, 6/6

\*PACK, 14 to the dozen

*Stocks obtainable from all Wholesalers*

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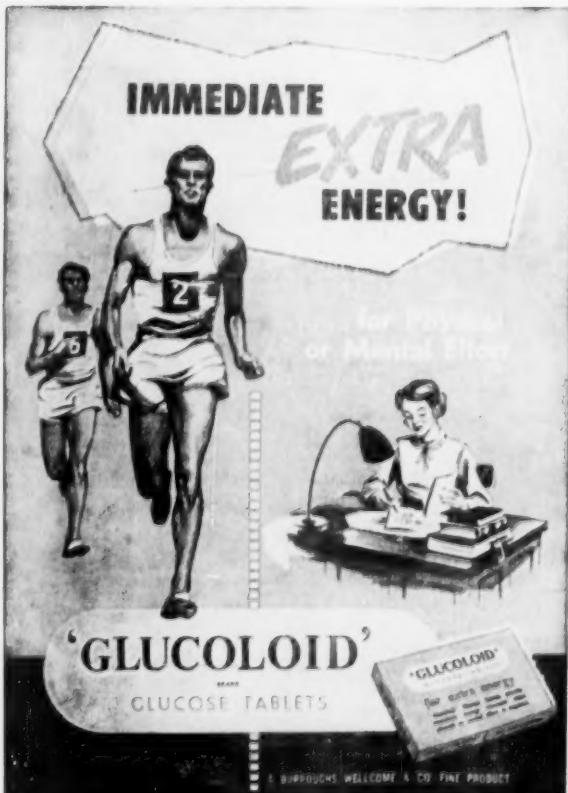
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